THURSDAY
October 9, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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adani

WE THANK OUR

HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER,

SHRI NARENDRA MODI JI,

FOR INAUGURATING THE

NAVI MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

We are also thankful for the guidance and support of the Government and people of Maharashtra, as well as all our partners and teams, for helping us bring this vision to reality on 8th October 2025. We at Adani Group are privileged to be a part of this growth journey of Maharashtra and our nation.

INDIA INSPIRES. THE WORLD ADMIRES.

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Survey: RWAs divided over participation

BENGALURU
Even as the Social and Educational Survey continues across the Greater Bengaluru Authority limits, several resident welfare associations (RWAs) remain divided over participation. » PAGE 6

Govt. issues norms for fresh caste certificates

BENGALURU
In a bid to remove confusion over implementation of internal reservation among the 101 Scheduled Castes (SCs), the government issued guidelines for issuing fresh caste certificates to enable them to secure reservation benefits. » PAGE 8

Trade deal is a launchpad for growth, says British PM

India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement presents unparalleled opportunities, says Starmer as he begins two-day visit; he will hold wide-ranging talks with Narendra Modi today

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The opportunities waiting to be seized under the India-U.K. Free Trade Agreement are "unparalleled", British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said in Mumbai on Wednesday as he kick-started his first visit to India after assuming charge.

"It's the biggest deal we've struck since we left the European Union," Mr. Starmer said. "I think it's also the biggest deal that India has ever struck, so it's hugely important."

Mr. Starmer, accompanied by a delegation of nearly 100 entrepreneurs, cultural representatives, and university Vice-Chancellors, arrived in Mumbai for a two-day visit to take advantage of the opportunities brought about by the India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement signed in July.

Boosting ties: British Prime Minister Keir Starmer talking to a delegation of leaders who joined him during his trip to India. AFP

"It's not just a piece of paper, it's a launchpad for growth. With India set to be the third biggest economy in the world by 2028, and trade with them about to become quicker and cheaper, the opportunities waiting to be seized are unparalleled," he said. He will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday. They will address the sixth edition of the Global Fintech Fest in Mumbai.

"Welcome Mr. Starmer on your historic first visit to India," Mr. Modi said on X. "Looking forward to our meeting tomorrow for advancing our shared vision of a stronger, mutually prosperous future."

"During the visit, on October 9 in Mumbai, the two Prime Ministers will take stock of progress in diverse aspects of the India-U.K. Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in line with 'Vision 2035', a focused and time bound 10-year road map of programmes and initiatives in key pillars of trade and investment, technology and innovation, defence and security, climate and energy, health, education and people to people relations," the External Affairs Ministry said.

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'AN ANCHOR FOR TIES'
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11 soldiers among 30 killed amid clashes in Pak. border province

Press Trust of India
PESHAWAR

Pakistan Prime Minister expresses grief, says sacrifice of military personnel will not go in vain

At least 11 Pakistani military personnel, including a Lieutenant-Colonel and a Major, were killed in clashes with the Taliban militants during an operation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province bordering Afghanistan, the Army said on Wednesday.

In a statement, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the media wing of the military, said 19 militants of the 'Fitna al-Khawarij' were also killed during the operation in Orakzai district on Tuesday night.

The Pakistan government last year notified the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) as 'Fitna al-Khawarij', a reference to a group in earlier Islamic history which was involved in violence.

During the "intense" exchange of fire between security forces and the militants, 19 terrorists "were sent to hell", the statement said.

It said that 39-year-old Lt. Col. Junaid Tariq, who was leading his troops from the front, and his second-in-command, 33-year-old Major Tayyab Rahat, were killed along with nine of their men.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif expressed grief over the killing of the soldiers, saying the sacrifices of the "fearless sons of the security forces will never go in vain". He said Pakistan will crush the nefarious intentions of terrorists.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

Six of a family washed away, 4 bodies recovered

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The bodies of four of the six persons who were swept away on Tuesday due to sudden discharge from the Markonahalli dam across Shimsha river in Kunigal in Tumakuru district, were recovered by Wednesday.

Police said rescue and search operations were on for the remaining two persons who are missing. The victims belonged to the same family. While the bodies of Sajiya and Harbeen were recovered on Tuesday, the bodies of two other persons Mifra (4) and Shabana (44) were recovered on Wednesday.

The tragedy took place due to a surge in the water level consequent to sudden discharge from the dam. The case has been transferred to Nagamangala rural police for investigation.

Snowed in

Out in the cold: Snowfall disrupted traffic on the Manali-Leh Highway on Wednesday. Cold wave conditions continued in the high-altitude areas of Himachal Pradesh, according to the local met office. PTI

A data visualisation project attempts to read between Bengaluru's Metro lines

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

Do you know which is the most popular Metro commute in the city?

Turns out it is Benniganahalli to Majestic, with more than 2,500 commuters daily, as per data culled out by public transport enthusiasts Vivek Matthew and Aman Bhargav based on an RTI response.

It gets more interesting.

Benninganahalli, as of now, is one of the most convenient metro stations to board the air-conditioned buses that pass through all the tech parks on ORR. It is also one of the closest metro stations to the proposed Blue Line, the demand for which has been getting louder day by day owing to the congestion on ORR.

What's in store

Put all the facts together, and the route's high popularity today "could be an indication for what the upcoming Blue Line has in store," hints 'How Bengaluru Uses the Metro', a data visualisation project developed by Mr. Matthew and Mr. Bhargav.

The initiative is a rich repository of several such gems of information that the duo sifted out of the 1.4 millions rows of data that they received as an RTI response from BMRCL.

Bhargav, a data visualisation expert, and Matthew, a software engineer, embarked on the project after the Yellow Line was inaugurated on August 11.

"Both of us are interested in public transport. After the Yellow Line opened, we filed an RTI on August 20 for additional data. We got a 10 MB Excel file of 18 days of data," Mr. Matthew explains.

The data dump that included tonnes of details on the number of passengers between each pair of metro stations, at each hour of the day, on each of 18 different days, was, in that form, of no use to the public. Hence the duo decided to clean it up and make it more usable, visual and accessible.

Impact of Yellow Line

Several data points about the impact of Yellow Line emerged out of the Pandora's box of information.

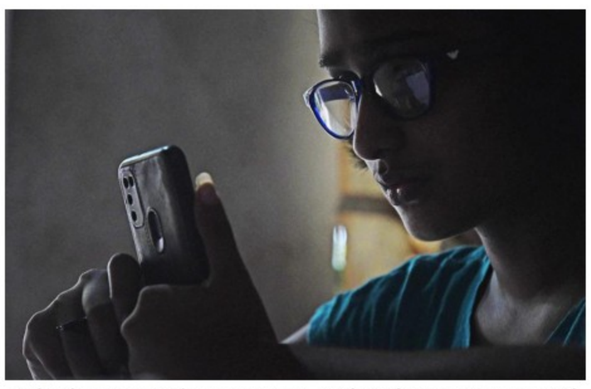
For example, it was found that the average daily ridership at Lalbagh increased by nearly 40% since the Yellow Line was opened. Purple Line stations saw a minor impact compared to Green Line stations.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 6

Jnana Sethu: Not all parents happy with PU students being told to bring smartphones to register online

Sathish G.T.
SHIVAMOGGA

The Department of School Education (Pre-University) has instructed lecturers in pre-university colleges in Karnataka to ensure that their students register for the Jnana Sethu programme with their smartphones. The students have to open a Gmail account and get the login facility to the Khan Academy, which provides resources online under the scheme.



Under the Jnana Sethu programme, students have to open a Gmail account and get the login facility to the Khan Academy, which provides resources online under the scheme.

This has left parents, particularly in rural areas, worried. While many have reached out to teachers saying they cannot afford to buy smartphones for their children, a few parents expressed concern over the ill-effects of addiction to phones. The parents of those students who are staying in hostels are more worried, as they would not be with the children to monitor their usage of phones.

Harish M.K. of Melinakoppa in Tirthahalli told *The Hindu* that he had been the guardian of his sister-in-law who is studying in a college. "Earlier, the teachers and officers conducted awareness campaigns discouraging the use of smartphones among students. Now, surprisingly, they are asking us to get phones for students. Who will monitor the use of phones in hostels?" He also stated that he would get a phone for a student only if the college principal or the hostel in-charge assured the safety of the girl student.

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, in his budget earlier this year, announced Jnana Sethu scheme in collaboration with Khan Academy, a non-profit organisation working in the field of education.

The objective of the scheme is to make the learning process effective for students from classes 6 to 12 in government schools and colleges. The organisation will be providing the resources free of cost to students and allowing teachers to use its AI tools for free. The department will be spending ₹5.4 crore for the training of the teachers under the scheme, as per the order issued by the department.

High schools later

As of now, the lecturers of PU colleges have been told to register their students for the scheme. In the coming days, students in high school and higher primary students are expected to join the scheme.

Chandrappa S. Gundupalli, Deputy Director of Pre-University Education in Shivamogga, said as per the instructions from the department, he had asked lecturers to do registration in colleges. "Children can access the material online using mobile phones.. We are just following the instructions of the department and monitoring the registration process," he stated.

Survey: Assn. writes to GBA chief, highlights lack of training, glitches

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Government Employees' Association on Wednesday wrote to the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Chief Commissioner highlighting issues in the ongoing Social and Educational Survey. The association said that the survey had been launched without adequate preparation and training, leading to continued confusion among enumerators, and requested the GBA to address these shortcomings.

The association said that each surveyor had been assigned to cover more than 250 households in the survey period, far beyond the recommended limit of 150. They added that although Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had stated on October 7 that enumerators should survey 10 to 15 households per day, nodal officers were "pressuring" staff to exceed 20 households daily through SMS instructions.

Households surveyed

- Central Corporation: 22,601
- East Corporation: 25,722
- North City Corporation: 41,610
- South City Corporation: 30,582
- West City Corporation: 53,159

The association also sought clarity on Aadhaar verification, suggesting that only one family member's KYC-based OTP should be used to authenticate each household's data. The letter also flagged technical issues in the mobile app used for the survey.

Other key demands include exemption for employees with medical conditions, single parents caring for dependants, and treasury staff who have yet to receive their September salaries. The association also called for redeployment of staff working 40 to 50 km away from their homes to nearby areas within a 10 km radius.

It recommended that enumerators be paid honorarium for revisiting households that initially refuse or remain unavailable to share information.

Citing safety concerns, the association demanded protection for women enumerators working in high-rise buildings and sensitive areas, and requested that survey work not be made compulsory on public holidays.

South Africans never give up and never back down

Tryon, the veteran all-rounder, says the team has learnt a lot from the losses in back-to-back T20 World Cup finals; feels that the totals are getting higher and the bowlers have to find ways; believes it is nice to rub shoulders with the best players in the world in franchise assignments

GETTY IMAGES

INTERVIEW

CHLOE TRYON

Lavanya L
COLOMBO

In the build-up to the Women's ODI World Cup campaign in India and Sri Lanka, South African players were asked to write a letter to the tournament.

"Dear World Cup, everything I've done in the sport, since I began playing in my backyard, has been about you," a usually reticent Chloe Tryon began narrating. "South Africans never give up. We never back down and we do it to show the pride and strength of our country."

A veteran of 117 ODIs and 113 T20Is, the left-arm spin-bowling all-rounder has been a crucial part of both of South Africa's recent runs to the final - in the home T20 World Cup in 2023 and the next edition in 2024 in the UAE.

The 31-year-old will hope the three-time ODI World Cup semifinalist can better its showing with a dash to the final and potentially even win this time. She talks about her own game, South Africa's evolution in the game and more in a chat with *The Hindu*. *Excerpts:*

Let's begin with the 2024 T20 World Cup. It was a heartbreaking result for a spirited campaign. How did you get over it?

It's never easy losing a final, and losing two back-to-back was very tough. We took a lot of learnings from the one we had in South Africa against Australia. It was tough, in front of a home crowd. We were very positive going into the game. In 2024, there was the prospect of us being that new champion, but we got completely outplayed.

Once everything settled down, we were all together. It was really hard to talk about anything, because in this group, we love talking about cricket and the performances we put up. We're glad we had each other through that and we had our families around. All that adrenaline just runs out, and you're just by yourself without the media, without anyone, and just dealing with all the emotions you're feeling. That can be hard. We had a couple of weeks at home to think about everything, what we could have done better, and then kind of eventually put it to bed. It always lingers at the back of the mind somewhere, but you can't dwell on it much. You have to find a way to keep moving forward.

You are playing cricket in the age of criticism, where every move is dissected. How hard does that get?

Yeah, a lot of opinions, you know, a lot of titles as well. It's important to cut the outside noise or else you carry it with you. Staying insulated was what we wanted to do, and focus on our love for playing for South Africa, one game at a time.

You had a good run with runs under your belt and a five-wicket haul in May during the tri-series featuring Sri Lanka and India at the R. Premadasa Stadium. How has your World Cup preparation come along?

I feel really good. There are still things that I want to improve on. I just want to stay positive about wanting to score runs. When I started my career, I was a bowler and just a pinch-hitter. And I think over the years, how I've navigated my game – from not just T20s, but to the 50-over format – and my approach has been a lot better. A little bit of experience has helped me understand my game more. I've been working very hard at home. We've had a lot of bowling camps which have helped us work on the skill aspect. It's been long hours but the results are showing.

Did South Africa identify any areas to specifically work on as a team?

If you look at how long 50 overs are, you really want to narrow down the things you want to be good at – making lots of runs and managing good partnerships (with the bat and ball). If I look back at the 2022 campaign in New Zealand, I don't think we necessarily bowled as well. We spoke about it, about taking wickets in the middle overs and trying to slow the game down as much as we can. In ODIs, you can get a bit lost along the way in the middle. The non-negotiable is also fielding. We know how crucial that can be in tournament cricket. So how can we still have presence and energy in the field? So it's just about making sure we do the small things as a group well in all different facets of the game.

As a bowler, what's changed for you over the last 10-12 months or even the last World Cup cycle?

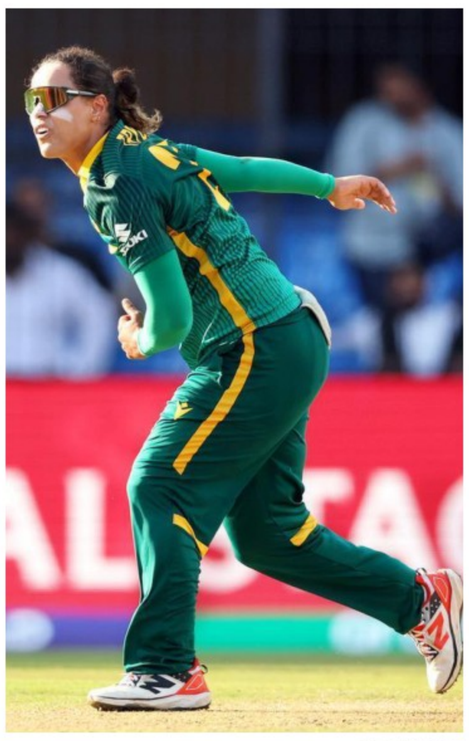
I am working a lot on control and playing to match situations while still being brave with the ball. Crucial overs are the middle overs. It dictates how the game will go from the 11th over to about the 40th. If you're not striking as often, you need to keep creating chances and dots to develop that pressure for the opposition.

How do you balance that when pitches are getting flatter everywhere?

I obviously watch a lot of cricket. It's becoming tougher for bowlers. I don't know if it must be like full tosses or something that might work. I'm not too sure because, watching that Australia vs India ODI in Delhi, I don't think I wanted to be a bowler that day. Scores are getting higher, and bowlers have to find ways. But the flipside is that skill levels are improving worldwide. You come up with different plans and rotate strategy. It's an exciting challenge, but one that's good for the game.

Let's talk about your captain Laura Wolvaardt. She's evolved into quite a serious tactician...

It's been great to see Laura evolve. She came in as a young kid in the 2017 World Cup and took it by storm. The evolution has been meteoric in the last couple of years and that's been fantastic to see. Captaincy has given her game a little extra something. She's scoring more runs and doesn't want to slow down. It's been great for her and her game and has helped her understand the sport more. She has been good at creating a solid team environment. You need that. Tours can be tough. It's long patches of time away from home. She's been pretty good at making sure we kind of do things together, which is a bit nice. She's really excited for this World Cup. We're going to rally behind her and support as much as we can.



GETTY IMAGES

You've had a good run in the franchise assignments, too, in the Women's Premier League and The Hundred. What have the learnings been?

I haven't really been writing notes. It's nice to rub shoulders with the best players in the world, watching them go about their business. You learn how they process things and approach challenges, making it look effortless sometimes. It's always nice to play against these people because you know you're going to play them again. For me, the value is in being able to see the other side of it. You see that these players own their space, which is really good.

Right after the WPL, you all went to your domestic 50-over tournament - the Pro50 - and won that as well with DP World Lions. Why did you choose that?

Yeah, it was straight into it, and the final was my first game for my domestic team. I want to play games for my domestic team. We know it's not always possible, as we have tours now and then. So, most of the girls miss a lot of fixtures. Going there and making an impact felt very good and I also had Shabnim Ismail alongside me, which made things better. I hadn't played with her in a long time, and so we decided to do it together.

The competition is good, but a lot of work needs to be done. The games need to be more numerous. We've got a great system where the girls are contracted at a domestic level, and it's so good to see that these girls can narrow down their skills and actually do the sport for a living. We can't just play 10 games a year. A year has 365 days. How can we still improve it? How can we incorporate senior team players and emerging girls playing for the domestic team? Can we find a slot in the year, a two-week gap, where the national players are all available, because it's so great to train alongside these girls. When you rub shoulders with a Wolvaardt or a Marizanne Kapp, you stand to learn so much. It automatically helps upskill.

World Cups are a great time to evaluate the health of the sport. As a player, what improvements would you want, particularly in ODIs?

It's a tough one. The sad part is that so much is dictated by money. We just played a series against Pakistan, and you can see how the skills have improved there. In our second match, we were a bit worried about whether they were going to chase down 320. I sat with Sidra (Amin) at dinner one day and pointed out to her how much their skills have evolved. The youngsters are putting their hands up and are hungry to play.

Money is a sore point because you want your players to be playing as much cricket as they can. You want Bangladesh and all these teams to be playing more, as it will help their game evolve. So the challenges are hard to deal with. But this improvement is exactly why we can't take any team in the World Cup lightly. Every game is a must-win. Hopefully, going forward, they get more game time and a chance to play against the best in the world more often.

You've used the word brave multiple times in this conversation. What does that mean tangibly?

If I had heard that word when I was younger, I probably would have run past the second ball that I faced, simply because I was so eager. Now, that word for me is about owning my space in the middle. Understanding and assessing conditions and knowing the different options I have, and choosing them without fear.

Baakier Abrahams, our batting coach, has helped us understand our game and our performance graphs a lot. It doesn't always have to be going at it from ball one. Positivity can be in the little things too - strike rotation, positive shots, making sure we're being proactive. He keeps voicing that. 'Be brave. If that ball is in your area, play it,' he'd say. If you look at how Tazmin Brits played in Pakistan, she owned it because she was so brave with her cricket in that series. She was like, "It could be the fifth ball of my innings, but if it's in my area, then I'm going to hit it."

That's where the game has come to now. We're not sitting back and waiting for opportunities. We're creating them. That translates to how we operate as a team, too. We need to take games deep. Not allow ourselves to be behind the eight-ball. For me personally, my role in the middle-order is tricky. For me, the messaging is just about spending as much time as I can in the middle and staying till the 50 overs are done. That's a goal for me in this World Cup.

Karnataka Forest Department
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS TERRITORIAL SUB DIVISION KALABURAGI

E-mail Id Address : acfkalaburagit@gmail.com

IFT No.: ACFT/KLB/E-Tender/TreeGuard/CR-/2025-26 Dated : 06-10-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

(THROUGH KPPP SECOND EDITION PORTAL) IS INVITED

This is to inform the public that tenders are invited Supply of Tree Guards - 7000 Nos during the year 2025-26 on the portal (Website link http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) in the second version of the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal from **06/10/2025 to 21/10/2025 till 04:00 PM.** Technical bids will be opened on **23/10/2025 after 04:30 PM.** Financial bids of successful tenders in the technical bid will be opened on **24/10/2025 after 05:00 PM.**

For more details : You can call or visit the office during office hours on weekday. Phone : +91 **9035960000.**

Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forests
Territorial Sub Division Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/600/KSMC&A/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIVISION KOPPAL. Phone No:08539-222318.email:eepwdkpl2@gmail.com

IFT No. PWD:DK:DB:KW-1 & 3:2025-26: 2403 Date:06-10-2025.

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers as per standard bid documents KW-1&4 on http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Portal. Head of Account: Head of Account : 2059-Non Plan, 2216-Non Plan & 3054-04-337-0-10-200- MDR Maintenance/ 2025-26. Two cover Tender procedure as per Rule 28 of the KTPP Act shall be followed. For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours on Phone No. 08539 – 222318 and all informations regarding tenders can be had from website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Total No of Works:04 (Work Indent No: **28129, 28107 & 28109 & 24896/Call-2**). Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders **13-10-2025** Time 16.00, Date and Time for opening of Tenders 14-10-2025 Time 16.30 (Sl.No. 1 to 3). Date and Time for opening of Technical Bid **14-10-2025** Time 16.30 (Sl.No. 4) and Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid **16-10-2025** Time 16.30 (Sl.No. 4). Minimum & Maximum Estimate Amount Rs. 3.50 Lakhs & Rs. 68.00 Lakhs respectively. The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address, EMD, Time for Tender Queries/ Clarification, Date of Financial Bid Opening, Date & Other information as mentioned in KPPP Portal. Note: A separate paper notification will not be issued in case of re-inviting of above mentioned tenders, any changes either in tender date or any other condition tenderers can view in http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal.

Sd/- EE, PWD Division, Koppal

DIPR/Koppal/383/KSMCA/2025-26

THE HUTTI GOLD MINES COMPANY LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

Hutti-584115, Raichur Dist, Karnataka State, Tele: 08537-275463, 276339,

e-Mail: material276339@gmail.com Website: www.huttigold.karnataka.gov.in

TENDER NOTIFICATION No. 15/25-26 Dt: 08.10.2025

(Through KPP Portal only)

Tenders are invited by "The Senior Manager (Materials)" for the following Tenders, detailed below:

Sl. No.	Description	EMD in Rs.
1.	Supply of Examination Couch Regular. **HGML/2025-26/IND0368**	16,000/-
2.	Supply of Vegetables & Greens for 06 Months. **HGML/2025-26/IND0376**	68,500/-
3.	Supply of 110VDC Chopper Controllers. **HGML/2025-26/IND0375.**	40,500/-
4.	Supply of Rollers for Crusher and SAG and Ball Mill Conveyor Belts. **HGML/2025-26/IND0358**	1,31,000/-
5.	Procurement of Crockery and Cutlery items for the main canteen & all sub-canteen utilization.**HGML/2025-26/IND0374**	47,000/-
6	Supply of S.Steel Dining Tables for Main Canteen & All Other Canteen Use. **HGML/2025-26/IND0372**	44,000/-
7	Providing consultancy service for liaison for converting Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) to Wheeling and Banking Agreement (WBA). **HGML/2025-26/SE0060**	46,000/-
8	Procurement of Grinding Wheels and Grinding Stones. **HGML/2025-26/IND0391**	33,500/-
9	Procurement of various sizes of jelly. **HGML/2025-26/IND0383**	69,000/-
10	Construction of Cable Trenches, Earth Pits with covering slabs in Electrical Substations. **HGML/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT111**	61,000/-
11	Procurement of 2" thick mathi planks, mathi sleepers, 1" & 1.5" thick silver oak planks. **HGML/2025-26/IND0390**	1,80,000/-
12	Procurement of cement OPC 43 GR. **HGML/2025-26/IND0356/Call-2**	55,000/-
13	Procurement of Hose Pipe ½", 1" & 1½". **HGML/2025-26/IND0393**	1,04,000/-
14	Consultancy Services for Preparation of DPR for Setting Up of Solar Power Plant at Hutti for Captive Requirement. **HGML/2025-26/SE0061**	41,500/-

Calendar of events:**1)** Last date for receipt of tender **14.10.2025 at 4.00PM for Sl.No.14 and 21.10.2025 at 04.00P.M for Sl.No.1 to 13. 2)** Opening of Technical Bid on : **16.10.2025 at 10.00AM for Sl.No.14 and 23.10.2025 at 10.00AM for Sl.No.1 to 13.** For further details interested bidders are advised to logon to website **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact the office of undersigned during working hours. For participating in the above tender bidder needs to be registered in Kppp portal.

Sd/- Senior Manager (Materials)

"LEADING GOLD PRODUCER IN INDIA"

Government of India
Ministry of Finance - Department of Financial Services
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNBAL - I KARNATAKA
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.

FORM NO. 14
[See Regulation 33(2) By Regd.]
A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication.

DEMAND NOTICE

Notice : Under Sections 25 to 28 of The Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 and Rule 2 of Second Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961, as amended

RC / 139 / 2025 **29-04-2025**

PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK
Versus
M/s. EXABIT SYSTEMS PRIVATE LIMITED

In the Matter of
(CH-1) - PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK
Branch Office : ITPL Road, Rajapalya Bus Stop, Mahadevapura, Near Hoodi Circle, Bengaluru - 560 048. Karnataka - 560 048. **... Applicant Bank / Certificate Holder**

-- Versus --

To,
(CD-1) - M/s. EXABIT SYSTEMS PRIVATE LIMITED
A Private Limited Company, Represented by its Directors, Mr. Prasanth Kumar Sahoo
Mr. Avinash Agarwal, Having its Business at No. 126, Gokul Mansion, Devasandra Main Road, K.R. Puram, Bengaluru - 560 048, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 048.
(CD-2) - Mr. Prashanth Kumar Sahoo S/o. Mr. Raj Kishor Sahoo
Res. At : No. S-12, Sai Residency, Ayyappa Nagar, K.R. Puram, Bengaluru, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 036.
(CD-3) - Mr. Avinash Kumar Agarwal S/o. Mr. Subhash Kumar Agarwal
Res. At : No. S-12, Sai Residency, Ayyappa Nagar, K.R. Puram, Bengaluru, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 036.
... Defendants / Certificate Debtors

CH Name	Int. Type / Mode	Int. Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	Amount (Rs.)	Interest (as on Order Date)	RC Amount (Rs.)	Remark
PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK	Compound Interest (Monthly)	11.75% p.a.	03-09-2019	12-02-2024	3777761	0	3777761	Rate of interest is as mentioned with penal interest @ 2% p.a.

This is notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the **Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore (DRT 1) in OA/1139/2019 an amount of Rs. 3777761.00 (Rupees Thirty Seven Lakhs Seventy Seven Thousands Seven Hundred Sixty One Only)** along with cost, expenses and future interest **@ 11.75 % p.a.** Compound Interest Monthly **w.e.f. 03-09-2019** till realization and costs of **Rs. 68005 (Rupees Sixty Eight Thousands Five Only)** has become due against you (Jointly and Severally / Fully / Limited)

CD Name	Int. Type / Mode	Int. Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	Liability Type	RC Amount (Rs.)	Remark
(CD-1) M/s. Exabit Systems Private Limited	Compound Interest (Monthly)	11.75 % p.a.	03-09-2019	12-02-2024	Jointly and Severally	3777761	Rep. by its Directors
(CD-2) Mr. Prashanth Kumar Sahoo	Compound Interest (Monthly)	11.75 % p.a.	03-09-2019	12-02-2024	Jointly and Severally	3777761	
(CD-3) Mr. Avinash Kumar Agarwal	Compound Interest (Monthly)	11.75 % p.a.	03-09-2019	12-02-2024	Jointly and Severally	3777761	

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made an accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Bank and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of your assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4. You are hereby ordered appear before the undersigned on 19-06-2025 at 10.30 a.m. for further proceedings.
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay.
(a) Such interest as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the Certificate / Execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date : 29-04-2025

Sd/- (Sanjiv Kumar)
Recovery Officer-1

MARKSCARD LOST

I, Aahana S Chatra D/o Sunil S Chatra R/at No.269, Ashirwad, 3rd Main Road, 6th Cross, Near Bengaluru International School, Ramanjaneyanagar, Chikkallasandra, Bengaluru-560061 do hereby solemnly state that, during the academic year 2024-25, I did complete my SSLC studies (Regn. No.1255580/264) at Carmel School, Padmanabhanagar, Bengaluru. Recently while shifting our house I have lost my SSLC Markscard. I now request Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board to issue me the duplicate markscard of the same vide affidavit dated 19.09.2025 sworn to Notary.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Publication of Corrigendum to E-Tender Notice No. CAO/CN/BNC/127/2025 dated 15.07.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

Sl.No.	Item of Work	Approx.Value
1.	Construction of New Broad Gauge line between Chainage 66400 & Chainage 90000 (23.600 km) including Civil & Track works, Signal & Telecommunication works, Railway Electrification and Electrical General Services between Tavarekere (excl.) & Hiriyur (excl.) Stations in Tumkur-Chitradurga-Davangere new line project.	Rs. 413,07,10,552/-

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 15.00 hrs on 31.10.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/Works, Bengaluru Cantonment

PUB/526/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the **UTS** Moblie App from **Google Play Store** for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Publication of Tender Notice No.: ECN-1-2025 Dated 29.09.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender (IREPS) for the following work.

Name of work	Approx.Value
AMC of Air Conditioning Unit including schedule maintenance and optional spares replacement of Chief Administrative Officer/Construction/ Bengaluru Cantonment office complex along with rest houses, Construction/Mysuru Unit and Construction/ Bengaluru Cantonment/ FB & Local outsourcing the Electrical maintenance activity of Service buildings, Quarters, ORHs, Switch room being maintained by Senior Section Engineer/ Electrical/Construction/Bengaluru Cantonment for a period of Two years including replacement of Electrical items.	Rs. 29,59,136.00

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 11.00 hrs on 23.10.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer,Traction Distribution-II/Construction/Bengaluru Cantonment

PUB/532/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the **UTS** Moblie App from **Google Play Store** for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

FORM NO. 18
Notice for appearance in Appeals Under Order 41 Rule 14 CPC, and Rules 1, 2, 4 and 11 of Chapter IV Karnataka High Court Rules and General Notice in Respect of Interlocutory Application
IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
Notice to the Respondent vide order dated: 17.09.2025
R.S.A.No.949/2019

Sri Muniswamy, ...Appellants
(By Sri Mohammed Siddiq & Ors - Advs)
-Vs-
Sri Kote Narayanappa., ...Respondents

Appeal from the judgment and decree dated 12.02.2019 passed in R.A.No.81/2017 on the file of the Senior Civil Judge & Prl. JMFC., K.G.F.

To: RESPONDENT
SRI KOTE NARAYANAPPA S/O MUNIYAPPA R/AT NO.KADIREGOWDANAKOTE VILLAGE, BETHAMANGALA HOBLI, BANGARPET TALUK, KOLAR 563116

WHEREAS the aforementioned Appeal preferred has been registered by this Court.Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this Court in person or through an Advocate duly instructed or through some one authorised by law, to act for you in this case **on 30.10.2025 at 10.30 am** in case you intend to contest the appeal. If you fail so to appear, the appeal will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

Issued under my hand and the seal of this court, this the **17th Day of September 2025.**

By Order of the Court,
Assistant Registrar

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to the public at large that, our client is intending to purchase that piece and parcel of agricultural land bearing **Sy.No.121,** measuring **4 A 02 G** situated at **Kuduregere village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bengaluru district,** bounded by :

East by : Government land & 30 ft Mud Road
West by : Land in Sy.No.59 belonging to K.M.Venkatesh
North by : Land in Sy.No.120/2 & 120/8
South by : Land in Sy.No.59 belonging to Munegowda & others

As per the revenue records furnished to us, the property is jointly standing in the name of **Smt.Komala D/o. Gowramma** R/at: Bettakote Village, Chennarayapatna Hobli, Devanahalli, Bengaluru & **Sri.Anjinappa S/o Late Narayanappa** Residing at Shivakote Village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru. The said owners has offered to sell the above property to our client.

ALL PERSONS including individuals, Hindu undivided family, companies, financial institution(s), non-banking financial institution(s), firms, association of persons, whether incorporated or not, lenders and/or creditors having any , objection, demand, claim, right, title and/or interest in respect of Land or any part or portion thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage, pledge, charge, gift, trust, succession, family arrangement/ settlement, bequest, possession, lease, tenancy, maintenance, easement, memorandum of understanding, license, share, assignment, lien, attachment, development rights, partnership, right of way, lis pendens, decree or order of any judicial/quasi judicial authority, reservation, contracts/ agreement, power of attorney, option, right of first refusal, pre-emption or any liability or commitment or otherwise of any nature whatsoever are hereby requested to inform the same in writing, supported with the original documents, to the undersigned at the address mentioned below within a period of **7 (Seven) days** from the date of the publication of this notice, failing which, the claim or right, if any, of such person or persons shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned.

Prashanth Aradhya H.C.
Shekhar Law Associates.,
Advocate & Solicitors
#919, 5th Main, MC Layout, Vijaynagar, Bengaluru-560040
Bengaluru Date : 09-10-2025

कैनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)
सिंडिकेट Syndicate

Infantry Road II Branch : No.91/1 Infantry Road, Bangalore – 560 001,
e-mail : cb1927@canarabank.com

DEMAND NOTICE TO BORROWER / GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR

Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

To,
Borrower : 1. M/S. USHA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
#53 5TH A Cross, 21ST Main, Mchs Colony BTM Layout,II Stage, Bannergatta Road Bengaluru – 560078.
2.MRS. USHA MAHESH REDDY
3.MR. MAHESH REDDY M S/O H MUNIYAPPA
No 2 & 3 Are Residing At :#53 5TH A Cross ,21ST Main, Mchs Colony BTM Layout, Near Metro Politian Club,Bengaluru – 560078.

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **Canara Bank, INFANTRY ROAD -II Branch** (hereinafter referred to as "the secured creditor"), appointed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, (hereinafter referred as the "Act") do hereby informs that do hereby issue this notice to you as under:

That **M/S. Usha Educational Foundation, represented by it's trustee Mr. Mahesh Reddy M** and **Mrs. Usha Mahesh Reddy** (hereinafter referred to as "the Borrower") has availed credit facility / facilities stated in the Schedule A hereunder and has entered into the security agreement/s in favour of the secured creditor. While availing the said financial assistance, you have expressly undertaken to repay the loan amount/s in accordance with the terms and conditions of the above mentioned agreements.

That **Mr. Mahesh Reddy M** and **Mrs. Usha Mahesh Reddy** (hereinafter referred to as "the Guarantor") has guaranteed for the payment on demand of all moneys and discharge all obligations and liabilities owing or incurred to the secured creditor by the Borrower for credit facilities up to the limit of **Rs.23,44,00,000 (Rupees Twenty Three Crore Forty Four Lakh only)** with interest thereon.

You (The person mentioned in **schedule B)** have also entered into agreements against the secured assets which are detailed in Schedule B hereunder.

However, from **27-06-2025**, the operation and conduct of the said financial assistance / credit facilities have become irregular. The books of account maintained by the secured creditor shows that the liability of the Borrower towards the secured creditor as on **29-09-2025** amounts to **Rs. 19,88,99,084.45 (Rupees Nineteen Crore Eighty Eight Lakh Ninety Nine Thousand Eighty Four and Paisa Forty Five Only)** the details of which together with future interest rate are stated in Schedule C hereunder. It is further stated that the Borrower/Co Borrower having failed to keep up with the terms of the above said agreement in clearing the dues of the secured creditor within the time given, and have been evasive in settling the dues. The operation and conduct of the above said financial assistance / credit facility/ies having come to a standstill and as a consequence of the default committed in repayment of principal debt/ instalment and interest thereon, the secured creditor was constrained to classify the debt as **Non Performing Asset (NPA) as on 27-09-2025** in accordance with the directives/guidelines relating to asset classification issued by the Reserve Bank of India.

The secured creditor through this notice brings to your attention that the Borrower has failed and neglected to repay the said dues/ outstanding liabilities and hence hereby demand you under Section 13(2) of the Act, by issuing this notice to discharge in full the liabilities of the Borrower as stated in Schedule C hereunder to the secured creditor within 60 days from the date of receipt of this notice. Further, it is brought to your notice that you are also liable to pay future interest at the rates mentioned in **"Schedule-C"** together with all costs, charges, expenses and incidental expenses with respect to the proceedings undertaken by the secured creditor in recovering its dues.

Please take note of the fact that if you fail to repay to the secured creditor the aforesaid sum of **Rs. 19,88,99,084.45 (Rupees Nineteen Crore Eighty Eight Lakh Ninety Nine Thousand Eighty Four and Paisa Forty Five Only),** together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs as stated above in terms of this notice under Section 13(2) of the Act, the secured creditor will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub-section (4)(a) and (b) of Section 13, the extract of which is given here below to convey the seriousness of this issue:

13(4)- In case the Borrower/Co-Borrower fails to discharge liability in full within the period specified in sub-section (2), the secured creditor may take recourse to one or more of the following measures to recover his secured debt, namely;

(a) Take possession of the secured assets of the Borrower/Co-Borrower including the right to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realizing the secured asset;

(b) Take over the management of the business of the Borrower including the right to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realizing the secured asset:

Provided that the right to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale shall be exercised only where the substantial part of the business of the Borrower is held as security for the debt;

Provided further that where the management of whole of the business or part of the business is severable, the secured creditor shall take over the management of such business of the borrower which is relatable to the security for the debt; and under other applicable provisions of the said Act.

Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

You are also put on notice that in terms of section 13(13) the Borrower/Co-Borrower shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed in Schedule B hereunder without obtaining written consent of the secured creditor. It is further brought to your notice that any contravention of this statutory injunction/ restraint, as provided under the said Act, is an offence and if for any reason, the secured assets are sold or leased out in the ordinary course of business, the sale proceeds or income realized shall be deposited with the secured creditor. In this regard you shall have to render proper accounts of such realization / income.

This notice of Demand is without prejudice to and shall not be construed as waiver of any other rights or remedies which the secured creditor may have including further demands for the sums found due and payable by you.

This is without prejudice to any other rights available to the secured creditor under the Act and/or any other law in force.

Please comply with the demand under this notice and avoid all unpleasantness. In case of Non- compliance, further needful action will be resorted to, holding you liable for all costs and consequence.

Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

SCHEDULE –A

[Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower]

S No.	Loan No.	Nature of Loan	Date of sanction	Amount
1	1927773000141	TERM LOAN	25.07.2019	Rs.20,00,00,000.00
2	170001747617	GECLEXTN 1.0	06.11.2021	Rs. 3,44,00,000.00

SCHEDULE –B

Details of Security Assets : Immovable :

1. All that piece and parcel of the property Sy No 64/1 measuring 1 acre 18.08 guntas, situated at Hebbagoodi Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District. Property bounded by: **East :** Land in Sy No 64/3 belonging to Mr. B Krishna Murthy , **West :** National Highway No.7, **South :** Chinnappa' Land And **North :** Veerappa's Land. **Name of Title Holder : Mr. Mahesh M Reddy S/o Late H Muniyappa**

2. All that part and parcel of property commercial land and building bearing Khaneshumari No. 61 and 62 situated at Veerasandra Village Attibele Hobli Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru District measuring 44200 Sq Ft. situated at Veerasandra Village, Attibelle Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District. And the property bounded by: **East :** Property bearing Kaneshumari No 65/A , **West :** Hosur Road , **South :** S M Sathyanarayana Property And **North :** Konnappanna Agrahara Gadi. **Name of Title Holder : Mr. M Mahesh Reddy S/o Late H Muniyappa.**

3. All that part and parcel of property,bearing Khanesumari No. 65/A situated at Veerasandra Village Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District measuring 20,000 Sq Ft and bounded by : **East :** Venkataswamy Reddy's Land , **West:** Property bearing Kanesumari No 61 & 62, **South:** Property of S.M Sathyanarayana , **North:** Konnappana Agrahara Gadi. **Name of Title Holder : Mr. M Mahesh Reddy S/o Late H Muniyappa.**

4. All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.53, having Municipal No.53, Ward No.65, PID No.65-53-53 situated in MCHS Colony, BTM Layout 2nd Stage, Bangalore, Bangalore presently comes under Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Limits, measuring East to West 50 feet and North to South 80 feet in total 4000 Square feet, along with a residential house measuring 2468 Square feet consisting of ground and first floor and bounded on: **East by :** Site No.52, **West by :** Site No.54, **North by :** Road, **South by :** Park. **Name of Title Holder : Mrs. Usha Mahesh Reddy W/o Mr. Mahesh Reddy and Mr. Mahesh M Reddy S/o Late H Muniyappa .**

SCHEDULE – C

[Details of liability as on date]

S No.	Loan No.	Nature of Loan	LIABILITY WITH INTEREST AS ON DATE	RATE OF INTEREST
1	1927773000141	TERM LOAN	Rs. 18,22,58,525.00	15.85%
2	170001747617	GECLEXTN 1.0	Rs. 1,66,40,559.45	10.85%

Place : Bangalore **Authorised Officer**
Date : 08.10.2025 **Canara Bank**

विद्युत सेवा आयोग
उत्तर प्रदेश पावर कारपोरेशन लि०
(उ0प्र0 सरकार का उपक्रम)

एस०एल०डी०सी० परिसर (निकट मंत्री आवास), विभूति खण्ड, फेज-2, गोमतीनगर, लखनऊ-226010

सूचना

उ0प्र0 पावर कारपोरेशन लि0, में कम्पनी सचिव On Fixed Term Basis के एक पद पर चयन हेतु योग्य भारतीय नागरिकों से आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। आवेदन के लिये विस्तृत विज्ञापन सं० 03/VSA/2025/CS आवेदन पत्र का प्रारूप, आवेदन प्रक्रिया और सामान्य निर्देश कारपोरेशन की बेवसाइट www.uppcl.org के Vacancy / Results सेक्सन में उपलब्ध है।

सचिव,
विद्युत सेवा आयोग

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED

Office of the Deputy General Manager-1, BSWML, 1st Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560 052.

No. DGM-1/(BSWML)/PR/241/25-26 **Date:08.10.2025**

CORRIGENDUM- 4

Sub: Updation of Calendar of Events for Tender Notification.

Ref: (1) This office Tender Notification No: DGM-1/BSWML/ TEND/ 08/2025-26, Dtd: 30.07.2025. **(2)** Corrigendum-1 No: DGM-1/(BSWML)/ PR/183/25-26, Dtd:: 18.08.2025. **(3)** Corrigendum-2 No: DGM-1/ (BSWML)/PR/203/25-26,Dtd: 03.09.2025. **(4)** Corrigendum-3 No: DGM-1/(BSWML)/ PR/225/25-26, Dtd: 19.09.2025.

As per the above subject and references, the calendar of events for the above tender notification is extended due to administrative & technical reasons. The Change in the Calendar of Events is as shown in below table.

Time schedule /calendar of events:

Sl No	Particulars	As per tender notification/ Corrigendum-1,2&3	Updated dates please read as
1	Last Date of Receipt of Tender	On 10.10.2025 up to 16:00 hrs.	**On 27.10.2025 up to 16:00 hrs.**
2	Opening of Technical Bid	On 13.10.2025 after 10:30 hrs	**On 28.10.2025 after 16:30 hrs.**

For Further details visit GOK kpp portal Website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-1
BSWML

DIPR/CP/JA/3137/2025-26

TOWN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, BELUR-573115, HASSAN

E-mail: itstaff_ulb_belur@yahoo.co.in, townmunicipal.belur@gmail.com ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 08177–222221

No. TMC/JE/TENDER-03/CALL-2/2025-26 Dated: 04.10.2025

E-PROCUREMENT RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Sl. No.Name of work 1)DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT 36017/CALL-3 Tender amount (Rs. In Lakhs)42,16,986-00 EMD (Rs. In Lakhs)1,05,500-00 2)DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT 48370 Tender amount (Rs. In Lakhs)24,88,908-00 EMD (Rs. In Lakhs)62,300-00 3)DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT48368 Tender amount (Rs. In Lakhs)11,07,889-00 EMD (Rs. In Lakhs)27,700-00 4)DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT48275 Tender amount (Rs. In Lakhs)64,66,877-00 EMD (Rs. In Lakhs)1,61,700-00 5)DMA/2025-26/EL/WORK_INDENT50118 Tender amount (Rs. In Lakhs)30,35,000-00 EMD (Rs. In Lakhs)75,875-00 1)Last date and time for tender notification in E-procurement: 15.10.2025 upto 5.30pm. 2)Techinical bid opening date and time: 17.10.2025 at 11.30am 3)Financial bid opening date and time: 23.10.2025 at 11.30am

Sd/- President, TMC, Belur. **Sd/- Chief Officer, TMC, Belur.**

ಪಾಸಾಸಂ/ಹಿಸನ/ಹಾಸನ/659/ಕೆಎಸ್ ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that my clients Sri. H K Rajagopal, S/o Late Krishna Reddy, Smt. Pillamma, W/o Sri. Nagaraju and Sri. R. Chethan, S/o Sri. H K Rajagopal are the Landowners of the Property bearing Sy. No. 190 and 191, totally measuring to an extent 5 Acres 38 Gunta, situated at Gattahalli Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, Bengaluru. My clients have lost/misplaced the following original documents with respect to the aforementioned property and the same are not traceable.1. Registered Gift Deed dated 16/04/1974 bearing document no. 137/1974-75 registered at the office of Sub-Registrar, Anekal, 2. Registered Gift Deed dated 07/08/1984 bearing document no. 851/1984-85 registered at the office of Sub-Registrar, Anekal, 3. Registered Sale Deed dated 16/08/1984 bearing document no. 905/1984-85 registered at the office of Sub-Registrar, Anekal, 4. Registered Sale Deed dated 25/02/2012 bearing document no. SRJ-1-05989-2011-12 registered at the office of Sub-Registrar, Sarjapura 5. Registered Sale Deed dated 25/02/2012, bearing document no. SRJ-1-05977-2011-12 registered at the office of Sub-Registrar, Sarjapura. My client has made sincere efforts to trace the original document mentioned above but could not trace the documents. Further my client represents that the above-mentioned original documents have not be pledged or mortgaged nor have created any lien on the lost original documents. Police complaint has already been lodged. Any person/s holding or have custody of the above said original documents shall contact the undersigned within 15 days from the date of this publication.

Date: 27/08/2025.
Advocate: Kavitha A.B
No. 2577, 13th Cross, 26th Main, 1st Sector, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560103 Mob No. 9900546686

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

ABSTRACT TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Two cover system) (Through e-procurement portal only)

Item wise tenders are invited through e-procurement portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the following works:

BELLARY THERMAL POWER STATION

(1) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT 3550. Dated: 30.09.2025. **Name of the work:** Carrying out round the clock Monitoring, Routine, Preventive & Breakdown Maintenance of Centralised AC System(Chillers, Chillers low side equipments) and Air-Ventilation system installed in Unit 1, 2 & 3 at BTPS. Contract period: 01 year. Last Date for submission of bid documents: 14.10.2025 upto 16:00 Hrs.

(2) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT 3551. Dated: 30.09.2025. **Name of the work:** Comprehensive Maintenance of Split AC's, Window AC's, Ductable AC's, Packaged AC's, Process Cooling AC's & Precision AC's from 1TR to 25TR, Installed in Unit 1, 2 & 3 at BTPS. Contract period: 01 year. Last Date for submission of bid documents: 14.10.2025 upto 16:10 Hrs. Further details can be had from office of the **Executive Engineer (CAM-1),** BTPS. Kudithini - 583 152, Bellary Dist. **Mobile: +91 82775 02836.**

RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION

(3) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT/3539. Dated: 27.09.2025. **Name of the work:** Disconnection of existing 1Cx1000 sq. mm. LT Cables from UST's of Unit 3 & 4 Transformer end & USSG end, Removal of released Cables from Cable Trays, Laying of new Cables on Cable Trays and terminating at both ends including Supply of 1Cx1000 sq.mm. Cable and other Accessories. **EMD: Rs.71,800-00.** Last Date for submission of bid documents: 11.10.2025 upto 16:30 Hrs. Further details can be had from office of the **Executive Engineer (Transformer),** KPCL/RTPS, Shakthinagar-584 170, Raichur Dist. **Mobile: +91 94495 96519.**

ADVERTISEMENT

MISSION SHAKTI 5.0

EMPOWERING DAUGHTERS, TRANSFORMING UP

From sports to self-defense, education to healthcare- UP's women lead a new era of empowerment.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's flagship Mission Shakti 5.0 has transformed from a campaign into a mass movement for women's safety, dignity, and empowerment. Launched during Navratri, this 90-day initiative is touching every corner of the state—building confidence, leadership, self-defense skills, and community awareness. From the playgrounds to panchayats, Uttar Pradesh's daughters are scripting a new story of progress.

"Where daughters are safe and respected, society too earns dignity and respect. Uttar Pradesh has set a strong example in this regard."
Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh

BIG PUSH FOR SPORTS AND CONFIDENCE

1.5 Lakh Women Athletes Join MLA Sports Competitions

Sports: 1.5 lakh daughters to take part in MLA Sports Competitions For the first time, MLA Sports Competitions are being held across all 403 assembly constituencies, with participation from over 1.5 lakh female athletes. These events are not just about talent identification but also about confidence, recognition, and social presence for women. By engaging both rural and urban youth, the competitions are laying the foundation for fitness, resilience, and leadership.

AWARENESS THROUGH EDUCATION:

5.1 LAKH GIRLS EMPOWERED

The Basic Education Department has organized large-scale awareness drives across **Upper Primary Schools, Composite Schools, and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs).** Over **5.12 lakh students** have been made aware of their legal rights, financial tools of empowerment, and welfare schemes such as **Kanya Sumangala, Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana, and Matru Vandana Yojana.**

Schools are becoming more than centers of learning—they are now **hubs of empowerment and social change.**

Night Escort Safety Service for Women

Ensuring safety from 10 PM to 6 AM

Under this initiative, women can call UP-112 for assistance at night. A police escort ensures their safe travel and accompanies them to their destination securely.

Welfare Schemes Driving Change

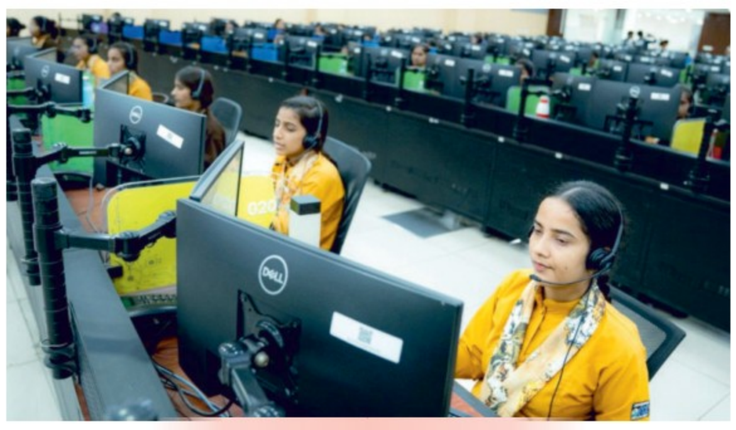
The Yogi government is ensuring financial and social security through:

- **Kanya Sumangala Yojana:** Benefiting 25.96 lakh girls with **Rs 25,000** for education and growth.
- **Mass Marriage Scheme:** Support increased to **Rs 1,00,000** per couple. A total of **4.67 lakh** couples married.
- **Pension Scheme:** 36.75 crore women receive Rs 12,000 annually.
- **Nari Shakti Vandan Act:** Enhancing women's representation in democratic institutions.

Cultural empowerment

Kanya Pujan on Navratri

On Ashtami (September 30), over **5 lakh girls** were honored through Kanya Pujan ceremonies across the state. **More than 1,500 girls** were directly linked to the **Kanya Sumangala Yojana,** which provides **Rs.25,000** financial support from birth till higher education. These ceremonies reinforced the message that **"daughters are blessings, not burdens."**



Impact: Uttar Pradesh tops in convictions, lowest crime rate against women

The results are visible. According to the **NCRB Crime in India 2023 report,** Uttar Pradesh today records a **women's crime rate of 58.6 per lakh female population-11% lower than the national average.**

The state ranks **17th nationwide** despite being India's most populous state.

- Cases of outraging modesty: **9,453 (rate 8.3 vs national 12.4)**
- Rape cases: **3,516 (rate 3.1 vs national 4.4)**
- POCSO cases: **8,706 (rate 10.2 vs national 15.2)**

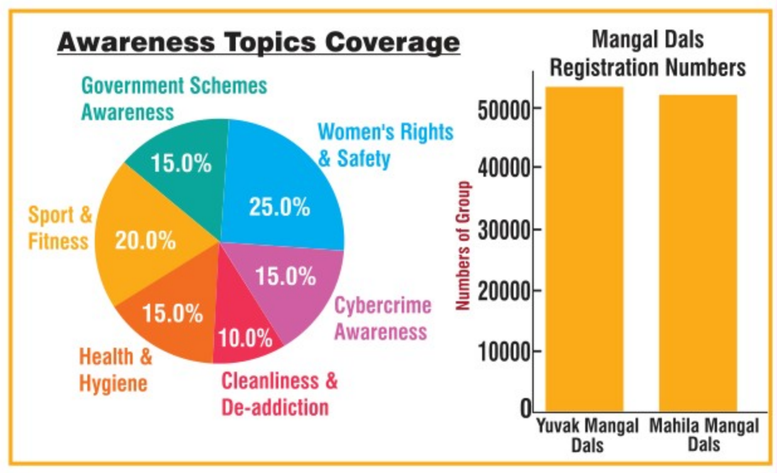
This success, CM Yogi says, is due to the state's **zero tolerance policy against crimes on women** and the **growing confidence among women to demand justice.**

> Despite being the most populous state, Uttar Pradesh today records the lowest crime rate against women and leads in convictions. Our zero-tolerance policy, coupled with Mission Shakti, has made women's safety and dignity a non-negotiable priority.
>
> **– Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath**

GRASSROOTS SAFETY & SELF-DEFENSE

In a parallel initiative, **200 women volunteers from the Provincial Defence Force (PRD)** are being **retrained in advanced self-defense.**

These women are not only protecting themselves but also acting as **grassroots messengers of safety** in villages, training others and building awareness.



Community Power: 1 Lakh Youth & Mahila Dals in Action

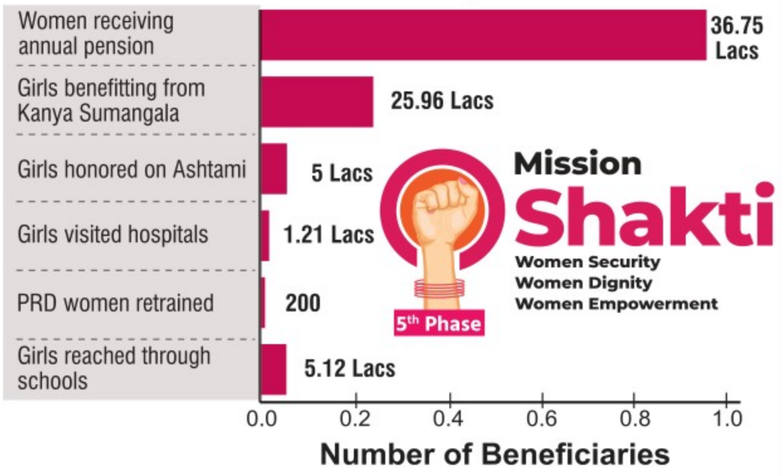
- **53,522 Yuvak Mangal Dals** and 52,042 **Mahila Mangal Dals** active in **57,695 gram panchayats.**
- Spreading awareness on sports, cleanliness, de-addiction, water conservation, cybercrime, women's rights, and welfare schemes.
- Recently, **2,405 members held awareness programs at 43 locations in 826 development blocks.**

HEALTHCARE EMPOWERMENT

1.21 lakh girls visit govt hospitals

In another first, **1.21 lakh girls** from schools and KGBVs visited **community health centres and district hospitals.** They learned how OPDs, pharmacies, and labs function, while also receiving health tips on **nutrition, hygiene, anaemia prevention, and epidemic care.** This initiative gave girls firsthand exposure to government health services, building trust and self-reliance.

MISSION SHAKTI 5.0 - By The Numbers



A Vision for Progress

Mission Shakti 5.0 is a pledge to **protect, respect, and empower every girl child.** By combining cultural reverence with modern initiatives, Uttar Pradesh is nurturing a future where daughters are not just safe but celebrated as the foundation of a stronger society.

HELPLINES FOR WOMEN IN DISTRESS

1076 CM HELPLINE	1090 WOMEN POWERLINE	181 WOMEN HELPLINE	108 AMBULANCE SERVICES	1098 CHILD LINE	1930 CYBER HELPLINE	112 NIGHT ASSISTANCE & POLICE EMERGENCY	102 AMBULANCE SERVICES FOR PREGNANT WOMEN & NEWBORNS

India's invasive species present a dilemma: document or conserve

Invasive alien species were introduced as ornamental fish and decorative shrubs, or as a solution to a problem, such as revegetating land; eventually they took over and displaced much of the local biodiversity, even rendering some native species locally or globally extinct, and destroyed habitats

T.V. Padma

Conservation scientists are sounding warning bells over "stealth invader" species that they say are destroying local biodiversity and changing landscapes.

This has in turn posed a chicken-and-egg dilemma for researchers: should they wait to document the effects of all invasive alien species in India and then prepare a conservation plan or should they conduct the exercises in parallel?

Invasive alien species are non-native species that have been introduced into a landscape by accident; as exotic ornamental fishes and decorated shrubs; or as a solution to a problem such as revegetating arid land. Soon these species take over a region and displace much of the local biodiversity, even rendering some native species locally or globally extinct and destroying habitats.

Invasive alien species have received more research and policy attention of late due to the economic and non-economic losses they cause. At present, some 37,000 established alien species have been introduced by human activities worldwide and every year there are 200 more, K.V. Sankaran, former director of Kerala Forest Research Institute, Thrissur, said. Of these, around 3,500 alien species (or 10%) have been found to have negative consequences for nature and people, Dr. Sankaran had told a forum of invasive alien species biologists in Bhopal in February.

India has an estimated 139 invasive alien species, mostly insect pests of crops, according to Ankila Hiremath at the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, Bengaluru. Others indirectly damage crops due to their effects on native insects. For example the invasive yellow crazy ant (*Anoplolepis gracilipes*) reduces the numbers of other ants that help keep pests in check.

The water hyacinth is among the world's worst invasive species and looms everywhere, from paddy fields to lakes that host migratory birds in winter, and even in the Kaziranga National Park in Assam. THULASI KAKKAT

Soil and water

Dr. Hiremath cited the example of the fast-growing weed *Lantana camara*. Introduced as a colourful shrub in the British colonial period, today it's in the way of efforts to conserve elephants and other large herbivores. The plant thrives in a range of soils from alkaline to acidic, and fertile to infertile, and is unpalatable for large herbivores and makes their habitat harder to navigate. The animals adapt by switching to cash crops, pushing them closer to human settlements, and increasing human-animal conflict.

Invasive plants also degrade natural wild habitats, endangering predator-prey relationships and jeopardising conservation efforts, Achyut Banerjee, assistant professor at the Azim Premji University in Bhopal, said.

Similarly, *Prosopis juliflora* is a tree originally introduced to India from South America and the Caribbean in the 19th century. In the 1960s and 1970s, the Gujarat Forest Department brought it to the Banni grassland in the Kutch region to combat soil salinisation and boost green cover. Now known locally as 'gando bawar', or the mad tree, this invasive species covers 50-60% of the original grassland area. *Prosopis* is very thirsty and guzzles water from surface soil, thus competing with grasses and native trees such as *Acacia*, Dr. Hiremath said.

This has led to more salt-water intrusion from the nearby coast rather than less – and has stressed the local wildlife, frustrated access to grazing resources, and has broken down traditional pastoralist-farmer networks.

Aquatic ecosystems are at risk as well. Dominant aquatic weed species include the water hyacinth (*Pontederia crassipes*), alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides)*, duck weed (*Lemnoidease species*), and water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*). Water hyacinth is listed among the 10 worst invasives and looms everywhere, from paddy fields to lakes that host migratory birds in winter as well as in the Kaziranga National Park in Assam.

"Alien species are a major threat for 1,070 species of threatened freshwater fishes," Rajeev Raghavan, scientist at the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies, Kochi, said.

India alone has 626 alien aquatic species, mostly introduced via the aquarium trade, aquaculture, and for mosquito control and sport fishing, according to Raghavan. Alien fish are now found across India, from the Dal Lake in Kashmir and the rivers and lakes of Manipur lakes to water bodies in Telangana and Kerala.

Poor documentation

A major problem scientists grapple with is the absence of extensive documentation. Unlike a few invasives, such as *Parthenium*, *Lantana*, and *Prosopis*, most of them in India have no recorded invasion histories, invaded regions or extent of consequences, said Alok Bang, assistant professor at Azim Premji University.

Freshwater invasion biology as a discipline is also "still in its infancy", according to Raghavan. There is a lack of comprehensive studies to understand micro-level distribution of alien species, their potential interactions with native species, and their impacts at the species and ecosystem levels.

> Conservation of a species might be understood differently by different stakeholders, so scientifically, we must define what we mean by conservation and impacts
>
> **ALOK BANG**
> AZIM PREMJI UNIVERSITY

"Conservation of a species might be understood differently by different stakeholders, so scientifically, we must define what we mean by conservation and impacts," and understand their multiple impacts, Dr. Bang said.

For example, at the species level, they affect native inhabitants' ability to survive and reproduce. At the population level, they affect the population size and genetic diversity. Species could become locally extinct and/or have reduced ranges or communities with multiple species could undergo changes in their composition and functions.

Invasive plants can also change the soil's porosity and compactness; the acidity and turbidity of water; and the availability of light (e.g. by preventing light from penetrating to the forest floor or sea floor).

At the ecosystem-level, processes like food webs, primary productivity, nutrient cycling, and energy transfers could change – or an entire existing ecosystem could transform into a new one.

Document or conserve?

Conservation researchers, practitioners, and policymakers in India thus face a dilemma. As Dr. Bang put it, should they wait to document the effects of all these species to prepare a conservation plan, or should they document and conserve in parallel?

Waiting to document all "would be unwise because there is no end to doing site-specific documentation, and we may not have the resources to do these studies."

It would be wiser to simultaneously conduct more impact studies in India and prepare conservation plans based on the knowledge of their ecological and socio-economic consequences in other countries, Dr. Bang added.

He recommended developing standardised quantitative methods to map the cumulative effects of invasive alien species on ecosystems as well as studies on impact assessment and eradication efforts.

"This approach can help identify highly impactful invasive alien species and hotspots of highly [affected] areas and prioritise sites, pathways, and species for management actions," Dr. Bang, who is working on such a framework, added.

According to him, scientists must also step out of silos and communicate and consult with diverse stakeholders that are interested in and affected by biological invasions while designing potential future prevention, control, and eradication.

He also said citizen science efforts could help create atlases of invasive species distribution.

(T.V. Padma is a science journalist in New Delhi. tvpadma_10@yahoo.co.in)

Novak Djokovic of Serbia during his singles match at the Shanghai Masters on October 7, 2025. AFP

Tennis stars suffer, wilt and quit in 'brutal' China heat

Agence France Presse

Novak Djokovic threw up, Alexander Zverev poured sweat out of his shoe, and Emma Raducanu quit her match with dizziness – and the bad news for the world's top tennis players is that more baking weather is to come in China this week.

Denmark's Holger Rune called the temperatures of more than 30 °C and humidity soaring past 80% at the Shanghai Masters "brutal."

The 24-time Grand Slam champion Djokovic labelled it "very challenging physically" on October 7 as he battled the heat and an ankle injury scare to reach the quarter-finals.

The 38-year-old crouched over frequently in between rallies against Spain's Jaume Munar and vomited on court.

After one unforced error, Djokovic dropped to the court and remained splayed out as a medic rushed over, before regathering himself to win in three battling sets.

The draw has opened up for the Serb after world number one Carlos Alcaraz withdrew before the tournament to rest, and defending champion Jannik Sinner retired from his match on Sunday with cramps.

Zverev, ranked three in the world, was beaten on Monday, having had to pause during his defeat to change his shoes because sweat was pouring out of them.

The main court in Shanghai has a roof, but it remains open and would only be closed if it rains. There is no prospect of that for the remainder of the tournament.

Rune has called for the men's governing body, the ATP, to introduce a heat rule at events such as the Shanghai Masters.

The ATP said in a statement that player safety was its top priority and that it is considering such a policy.

Currently, decisions affecting play to do with weather conditions, including heat, "lie with the on-site ATP Supervisor, in coordination with on-site medical teams and local authorities", it said.

Scientists have consistently warned that human-driven climate change is resulting in more frequent and intense weather events worldwide

Conditions felt marginally less oppressive on Wednesday in Shanghai but forecasts were still for highs of 29 °C.

Temperatures are set to rise again in the coming days and peak on Sunday, the day of the final, at an estimated 32-33 °C.

France's Arthur Rinderknech, who reached the quarter-finals on Wednesday, said it was not only the players who were suffering.

"It was as hard for the ball boys, for the umpire, for the fans, everybody was always like this -- blowing air to the face because it was really hot," he said.

The conditions are equally punishing in Wuhan, central China, where all the top women's players are competing.

Temperatures are above average for this time of year in both cities.

Scientists have consistently warned that human-driven climate change is resulting in more frequent and intense weather events worldwide.

The difference between Wuhan and Shanghai is that the WTA has a heat policy.

At the WTA Wuhan Open on Tuesday, former Grand Slam champions Emma Raducanu and Jelena Ostapenko both retired from their matches.

Raducanu had her blood pressure and other vitals checked before retiring with dizziness from her first-round match.

World number two Iga Swiatek called on organisers to take player safety into account when scheduling matches on the outside courts, where there is no roof.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

Scientific terms that are palindromes

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

During glycolysis, cells make energy by breaking down glucose step by step. One compound gives its phosphate group directly to ADP to form ATP in this process, which is the cell's energy source. Which three-letter molecule, short for phosphoenolpyruvate, serves as this donor?

QUESTION 2

When scientists study enzymes, they often measure how fast one molecule can turn many substrates into products. The three-letter palindrome TOT describes the average time an enzyme takes to complete one reaction cycle for a single active site. What does it stand for?

QUESTION 3

Some molecules made only of nitrogen atoms are perfectly symmetrical, meaning they appear the same when read in reverse. Which short, palindromic chemical formula that shows two nitrogen atoms joined by a double bond represents the simple compound known to chemists as diazene or diimide?

QUESTION 4

Scientists use radio waves to detect airplanes, ships, and even rainstorms by bouncing signals off them and measuring the time taken for the echoes to return. The palindrome 'radar' describes this system widely used in navigation and weather tracking. Expand 'radar'.

QUESTION 5

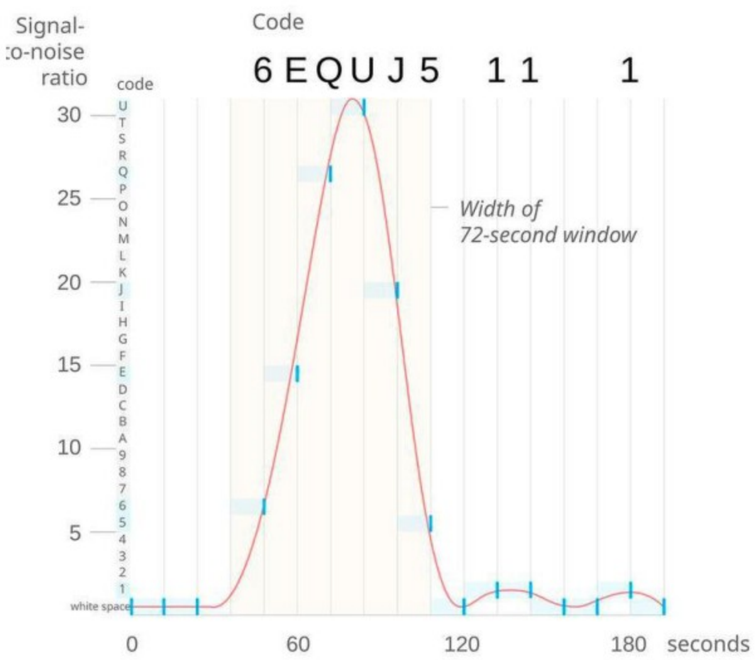
Engineers studying movement in water often copy designs that naturally stay balanced and reduce drag. Which palindrome names a long, narrow watercraft propelled by paddles — and which is also used in robotics research to describe efficient, symmetric motions in fluid dynamics experiments?

Answers to October 7 quiz:

1. When rocks rotate away from a vertical surface – **Ans: Topple**
2. Flow that's between a downhill creep and a mudflow – **Ans: Earthflow**
3. Dangerous volcanic flow with volcanic debris and hot gas – **Ans: Pyroclastic flow**
4. Lituya Bay event that created the tallest of its kind – **Ans: Tsunami wave**
5. Full-form of DASP – **Ans: Drainage anti-slide pile**

Visual: **Avalanche**

First contact: Anmol Agrawal | K.N. Viswanathan | Tamal Biswas | Deepak Gogiya | Subhasmita Pradhan



Visual: In 1977, a telescope in the US picked up the signal whose intensity is depicted here. It's been called the _____ signal because of its highly unusual strength and long duration. Such a signal has never been detected since and scientists are still looking for an explanation. Fill in the blank. MAXROSSOMACHIN (CC BY-SA)

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

The advisory states the closure is required to facilitate ongoing works by BMRCL. FILE PHOTO

Metro work: ORR service road in HSR Layout to remain closed for 45 days

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Commuters using the Outer Ring Road (ORR) stretch near HSR Layout will face temporary diversions as the service road between the 9th Main Road Junction and the 5th Main Road Junction has been closed for Namma Metro construction. The closure, announced by the Bengaluru Traffic Police, will remain in effect for 45 days starting from October 6, 2025.

The advisory stated that the closure is required to facilitate ongoing works by the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (BMRCL). As a result, vehicles travelling from the Iblur junction towards the Silk Board junction have been advised to take the 14th Main Road flyover and continue along the main carriageway to reach the 5th Main Road Junction.

Alternatively, motorists can use the internal roads within HSR Layout to proceed towards Silk Board and Hosur Main Road.

The BMRCL is constructing the Blue Line of Namma Metro, officially known as the ORR-Airport Metro Line, and is now scheduled for completion by December 2027.

The line is divided into two key sections: Phase 2A, which runs from Central Silk Board to Krishnarajapura (K.R. Pura), and Phase 2B, which extends from K.R. Pura to Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).

DKS: Have moved heaven and earth, but mafia not letting us solve garbage issue

Shivakumar says Bengaluru appears to make 'more noise' when it comes to potholes and bad roads than other cities because of its open media environment

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

D.K. Shivakumar

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Wednesday said he has moved heaven and earth to fix Bengaluru's garbage problems, but the involvement of mafias has stalled the progress.

He was speaking during a discussion on "GBA: Transformative Vision for Bengaluru with GBA" organised by BPAC and Mount Carmel College.

Speaking during a session about the government's "transformative vision" for Bengaluru through the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), he said the city's challenges are deep-rooted and require coordination among multiple agencies.

Across parties

"Even the BJP was not successful, and so far, we (Congress) too are not, because garbage mafias are not allowing us to work. I am moving heaven and earth, but the mafia are involved," Mr. Shivakumar said.

Mr. Shivakumar said that Bengaluru appears to make "more noise" when it comes to potholes and bad roads than other cities because of its open media environment. "Bengaluru gets headlines because here, we are free, the media and social media work without restrictions. But in other States like Tamil Nadu or Andhra Pradesh, the media cannot function this freely," he said.

"Here, some parents make their children cry to highlight bad roads and it gets posted and becomes a headline. We, as politicians, welcome such criticism; that's how we can rectify our mistakes. I understand people's frustrations, even my daughters scold me for getting stuck in traffic. But we are proactively doing our work, and people will remember these efforts 10 years from now," the DCM said.

Why GBA now?

Speaking on the formation of GBA, Mr. Shivakumar said, "The idea was to bring better coordination and accountability among departments. Every citizen should know what they should contribute and what the government will do. We are policymakers, but we never take decisions independently, we consult all stakeholders."

Urbanisation is a big challenge for any country, Mr. Shivakumar said, adding that people come to Bengaluru for education, employment, and better living standards.

"I am from a village near Bengaluru South. My parents brought me here for quality education, and I never went back. That's the story of everyone here," he said. He further noted that Bengaluru's strong educational base has made it a talent hub that can challenge any city. During S.M. Krishna's tenure as Chief Minister, the population was 70 lakhs, now it's 1.4 crore, he said.

Referring to a recent issue involving logistics startup BlackBuck, he said, "Some fellow threatened us that he will go back. But before that, he came here because he was earning. People come and do business here because this is a talent hub".

However, the city's growth has brought complex issues. Mobility, solid waste management, and drinking water are the biggest problems, he said, pointing out that Bengaluru now has 1.27 crore registered vehicles and that its population could touch two crore soon.

He further added that 50% of seats in the new civic wards would be reserved for women. "From panchayat to Parliament, we need more women leaders. They are the decision-makers in families, they should be part of governance too," he said.

Tunnel Road

Regarding criticism of projects like the tunnel road, the Deputy Chief Minister said, "You cannot satisfy everyone. Everyone wants to own a car, and then they complain about traffic. Time is money, I don't want people to be stuck in traffic anymore."

"Whatever we do, there are some sadists. Now people are saying with tunnel road, It will be affecting Lalbagh. I am not a mad man. Only around the rock part there is an exit planned. I know if I touch Lalbagh, people will break my head," Mr. Shivakumar said, promising the continuity of tunnel road projects alongside other massive infrastructure projects taken up by the Congress government.

"Whatever law the Congress party makes, no other government can change. Even during the GBA deliberations, BJP and JD(S) leaders too gave their suggestions," he added.

Water adalat today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) will hold water adalat on Thursday from 9.30 a.m. to 11 a.m. to address a range of public issues related to water services.

The areas include North 2-1: 1st Floor, Pinakini Bhavan, Doddaballapura Main Road, Yelahanka New Town; Jamboosavari Dinne Main Road, J.P. Nagar 8th Phase; Kapila Bhavan, 1st Floor, 4th T Block, Jayanagar; No. 17, Park Road, Tulasi Thota, Chikka Lalbagh,; Ground Floor, 1st Main, Banashankari 3rd Stage, Banagirinagar; A. Narayanapura Main Road, opposite K.R. Puram Railway Station, near Patalamma Temple, Hanuman Junction, A. Narayanapura; 1st Main Road, Kasturinagar; South East 2: Swami Vivekananda Road, Halasur, South East 5: 2nd Cross, 17th Main, Koramangala 3rd Block, opposite Vijayanagar Water tank, Vijayanagar, 8th Main, M.C. Layout, and 5th Block, Outer Ring Road, Nagarbhavi.

Sivakumar takes additional charge as BMTC M.D.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Sivakumar K.B., a 2010-batch IAS officer and Commissioner of Health and Family Welfare Services, assumed additional responsibility as the Managing Director of the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) on Wednesday.

The appointment follows the transfer of Ramachandran R., who had been serving for nearly 21 months.

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Men assaulted while transporting cattle in Maharashtra

7 In Maharashtra's Jalna district men were assaulted by a group accusing them of transporting cattle for slaughter. The victims said they were moving 21 bulls for agricultural purposes with valid documents when attacked with sticks and logs. Police rescued the injured men and seized the cattle. PTI

Children rescued by RPF from Eastern railway stations

13 The Railway Protection Force (RPF) rescued 13 children, including eight minors allegedly being trafficked, from various stations under the Eastern Railway. One suspected trafficker was arrested at Sahibganj railway station while attempting to take the children to Delhi for labour work. PTI

Number of road repair projects launched by the Delhi PWD

153 The Delhi Public Works Department (PWD) will undertake these projects under the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund before winter to improve road quality. The ₹803-crore plan, approved by the Centre, covers 65 roads in the east, 33 in the north, and 55 in the south zones. PTI

Fine imposed by DGCA on IndiGo over lapse in pilot training

20 In ₹ lakh. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has imposed a ₹20 lakh penalty on IndiGo for allegedly failing to use qualified simulators for pilot training at Category C aerodromes. The airline's parent company, InterGlobe Aviation Ltd, said it is contesting the order. ANI

The value of banned tobacco seized in Palghar

13.99 In ₹ lakh. The confiscated items included scented paan masala and other prohibited tobacco products. An FIR has been filed under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Food Safety and Standards regulations. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Are workers' rights being eroded?

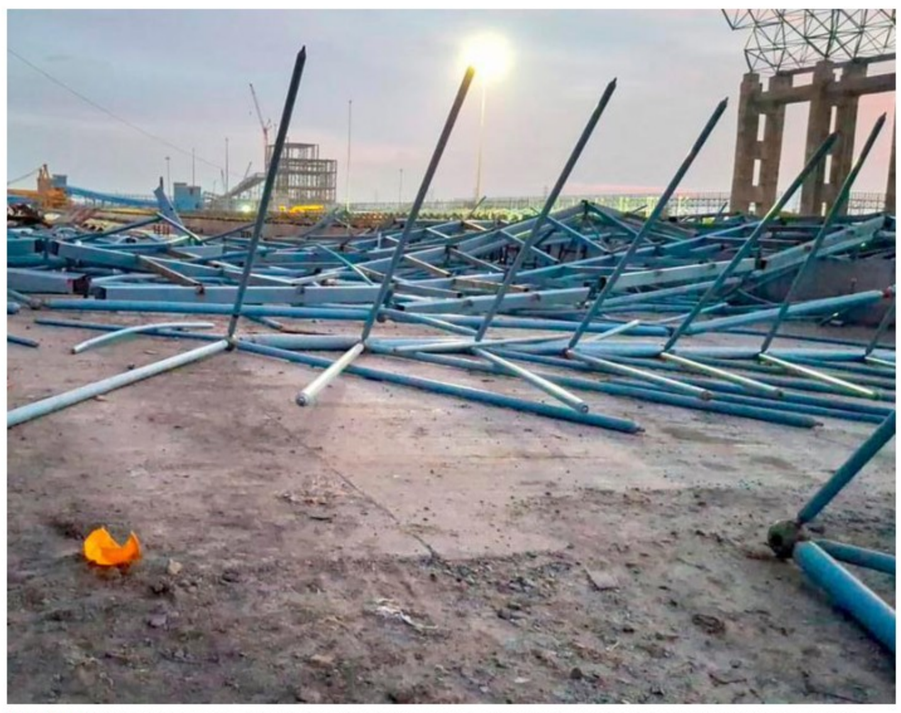
What happened at the Sigachi Industries chemical factory in Telangana when a chemical reactor burst? What has the International Labour Organization (ILO) said about industrial accidents? What laws are in place in India that protect workers' rights?

EXPLAINER

Gautam Mody

The story so far:

On June 30, at the Sigachi Industries chemical factory in Telangana, 40 workers were killed when a chemical reactor burst. Countless others were injured. Barely a day later, on July 1, eight workers were killed in an explosion at Gokulesh Fireworks in Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu. And yet again on September 30, nine workers died when a 10-metre-high coal-handling plant collapsed at Chennai's Ennore Thermal Power Station. The British Safety Council estimates that one in four fatal workplace accidents worldwide occur in India. This is a conservative figure, given the widespread underreporting of workplace injuries and deaths, especially among contract and informal workers whose employment is neither registered nor protected by law.



In ruins: Scaffolding came crashing down at the Ennore plant, Chennai on September 30. FILE PHOTO

Why do workplace accidents occur?

Accidents occur not because they are inevitable but because employers fail to prevent them. Prevention means eliminating hazards through proper workplace design, equipment maintenance, safety systems, and by enforcing protective procedures and training all workers and supervisors exposed to risk.

The Telangana explosion is a case in point. The reactor was operating at twice the permissible temperature. No alarms went off, and no safety officer intervened. The machinery was outdated, maintenance was ignored, and repeated worker complaints were dismissed. When the blast occurred, workers jumped factory walls to save themselves. The required on-site ambulance was missing, and the injured were taken to the hospital in a damaged company bus. Even after a week, authorities could not determine how many were "missing" which is clear evidence that unregistered workers were working in a highly hazardous plant with no entry or exit records. The Ennore collapse also followed the same pattern. The coal-handling structure fell likely due to faulty design, poor-quality scaffolding, or inadequate anchoring.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) has confirmed that industrial accidents are rarely random. They occur because managements cut corners, underinvesting in safety to reduce costs and maximise profit. Even when employers blame "human error," the real causes lie in employer practices: long working hours, inadequate rest, excessive work pressure, or wages so low that workers are forced to take double shifts.

What are the laws in place in India?

Workers have fought for safer workplaces since the dawn of the industrial age. The first Factories Act in India was enacted in 1881. After Independence, the Factories Act, 1948 became the cornerstone of labour regulation. It governed everything from factory licensing and machinery maintenance to working hours, rest breaks, canteens, and crèches based on the principle that decent working conditions and safety go hand in hand. The Act also saw amendments in 1976 and 1987, the latter prompted by the Bhopal Gas Tragedy. These laws were enforced through licensing and inspection, and a combination of scheduled and surprise checks. Though imperfect, this allowed workers, especially unionised ones, to file complaints and compel employers to act. But the Bhopal tragedy exposed its limits – inspections could be bribed away, records falsified, and violations ignored.

India's mechanisms to compensate injured or deceased workers – the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 and Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 – recognise compensation for loss of earnings, including lifetime income. However, in practice, such compensation remains meagre.

More importantly, these laws do not hold employers criminally accountable. When such accidents draw media attention, governments announce ex gratia payments from public funds. This turns compensation into charity and absolves employers of responsibility.

What is the situation now?

Since the 1990s, labour protections have been systematically dismantled. Employers demand "flexibility" including freedom to hire, fire, and extract work without oversight. Governments have obliged by weakening inspections, diluting laws, and branding safety regulations as "obstacles to business." For example, in 2015, the Maharashtra government allowed employers to "self-certify" compliance with labour laws. And the BJP government's 'Ease of Doing Business' campaign has pushed other States to follow.

The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSHWC) Code, 2020, which seeks to replace the Factories Act, epitomises this shift. Though currently in abeyance, once enforced it will move health and safety from being a statutory right to executive discretion. What was once a worker's right will become government generosity. At the same time, States have increased their working hours, a practice started during the COVID pandemic, which is a major blow to safety. In 2023, Karnataka made this permanent, increasing daily limits and reducing rest periods.

It is well established that safe workplaces enhance productivity and profits. Yet India's dominant business culture is not about sustainable profits but extracting the maximum from labour with minimal responsibility. Until the state restores workplace safety as a right, reinstates inspection as enforcement, and holds employers criminally liable for preventable deaths, workers' lives will always hang in the balance.

Gautam Mody is General Secretary of the New Trade Union Initiative.

THE GIST

- The British Safety Council estimates that one in four fatal workplace accidents worldwide occurs in India. This is a conservative figure, given the widespread underreporting of workplace injuries and deaths.
- Employers demand "flexibility" including freedom to hire, fire, and extract work without oversight. Governments have obliged by weakening inspections, diluting laws, and branding safety regulations as "obstacles to business."
- It is well established that safe workplaces enhance productivity and profits. Yet India's dominant business culture is not about sustainable profits but extracting the maximum from labour with minimal responsibility.

What was behind the 'I Love Muhammad' movement?

How did the protests spread to other cities and States? How have Muslim bodies and political parties reacted?

Ziya Us Salam

The story so far:

On September 4, in Kanpur's Rawatpur area, a few young men put up a lightboard at the entrance of a lane in Syed Nagar on the procession route with the words, 'I Love Muhammad', written in English. It was put up as part of celebrations around the Prophet's birthday. Some Hindu groups claimed it was in contravention of rules of religious processions in the State. A scuffle ensued and after FIRs were filed against 15 unidentified people and nine identified persons, the row spread to other cities of Uttar Pradesh before brimming over to other States. It soon developed into a debate on the right to freedom of religion.

What happened?

While Kanpur witnessed little violence, Bareilly saw protests as well as the use of bulldozers on the private properties of some of those allegedly involved in the violence, including the son-in-law of Ittehad-e-Millat Council chief Maulana Tauqeer Raza Khan, on whose call a thousand Muslims had gathered at Islamia grounds on September 26, to protest against the State's alleged high-handedness in Kanpur. The police, after initially permitting the protest, withdrew it shortly before the prayers. Though Mr. Khan made a belated appeal to followers to disperse following the denial of police permission, many people had already gathered. The police resorted to lathi-charge to disperse the protestors. Next day, private properties of Mr. Khan's relatives and a doctor said to be close to him were destroyed.

Residents of Unnao too, found themselves in similar hot waters with local Muslim youth organising processions holding 'I Love Muhammad' placards and chanting religious slogans. Clashes were reported as the police objected to the use of boards with the said slogan. It led to eight FIRs and arrests of five individuals. Meanwhile, in Maharajganj, police did not give permission for a procession leading to further alienation of local residents who read in the police action a denial of their right to freedom of religion. The police action did, however, thwart the possibility of any violence.

What about other States?

In the neighbouring State of Uttarakhand, Muslim residents alleged that police response was disproportionate to a peaceful march where the protestors held up placards with 'I Love Muhammad' written on them and called for the cancellation of FIRs in Kanpur.

Soon the row spread to Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh before hitting Telangana, the first non-BJP-ruled State to report a problem around the slogan. By then, 'I Love Muhammad' posters had spread across the country with people using the slogan as part of their social media handles. It is being seen as the Muslim community's response to the allegedly excessive use of force first by the U.P. police followed by its counterparts in other States.

What lies ahead?

What began as a localised dispute in Kanpur grew into a nationwide debate on freedom of expression, right to equality and freedom of religion. The Association for Protection of Civil Rights, which investigated the controversy, found that 21 FIRs were lodged, over 1,324 individuals from the Muslim community booked, and 38 people arrested in Uttar Pradesh and other States.

The Jamaat-e-Islami Hind has called for the cancellation of FIRs against members of the community and dubbed the criminalisation of the 'I Love Muhammad' slogan *ultra vires* as it went against Articles 19, 21 and 25 of the Constitution. Meanwhile, the All India Muslim Personal Board called for the immediate release of Mr. Khan and others. A delegation led by the Leader of the Opposition in Uttar Pradesh, Mata Prasad Pandey, was restrained from reaching Bareilly. The Samajwadi Party MP Iqra Hasan was also detained by the police and Sambhal MP Ziaur Rehman Barq was placed under house arrest.

THE GIST

- On September 4, in Kanpur's Rawatpur area, a few young men put up a lightboard with the words, 'I Love Muhammad', written in English.
- While Kanpur witnessed little violence, Bareilly saw protests as well as the use of bulldozers on the private properties of some of those allegedly involved in the violence.
- The Jamaat-e-Islami Hind has called for the cancellation of FIRs against members of the community and dubbed the criminalisation of the 'I Love Muhammad' slogan *ultra vires* as it went against Articles 19, 21 and 25 of the Constitution

One year of Cauvery Stage V, but only 87,000 new connections

As against a target of 3.5 lakh connections under Stage V, BWSSB has till date provided nearly 2 lakh connections, achieving only over 50% progress; however, nearly 1.13 lakh of these connections were provided before Stage V was inaugurated

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

It has been a year since Cauvery Stage V, which provides piped river water to the parched 110 villages in the city's outer zones, was inaugurated in October 2024. But in the past year, only 87,000 new connections were provided, according to data from Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB).

As against a target of 3.5 lakh connections under Stage V, BWSSB has till date provided nearly 2 lakh connections, achieving over 50% progress. However, nearly 1.13 lakh of these connections were provided before Stage V was inaugurated.

Many factors

Rejuvenation of borewells after two successive monsoons in 2024 and 2025, high pro rata charges and trust deficit over regular water supply and its quantum seem to be leading to slow progress in the rate of new connections. This, despite BWSSB introducing the Sarala Cauvery scheme under which customers get to pay the charges in 12 installments.

However, V. Ram Prasath Manohar, Chairman, BWSSB, termed the progress "steady". "The rate of new connections slowed down due to the recent occupancy certificate (OC) issue. That will also likely be resolved soon," he said.

Rejuvenation of borewells after two successive monsoons in 2024 and 2025, high pro rata charges and trust deficit over regular water supply and its quantum seem to be leading to slow progress in the rate of new connections. FILE PHOTO

Implementing a December 2024 Supreme Court order, Bescom and BWSSB are to give utility connections to only buildings with an OC. Nearly 24,000 applications for new water connections are stuck due to the OC impasse in the entire city. The breakup of these applications under Cauvery Stage V is not available.

Even now, many apartment communities are yet to be convinced that taking a Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board water connection is beneficial to them

The State government exempted buildings on plots up to 1,200 sq. ft. from availing an OC, and talks are on to provide one time relief to larger buildings that have already been built as well.

Issues persist

Even now, many apartment communities are yet to be convinced that taking a BWSSB water connection is beneficial to them.

D. Chandramouli, a resident of an apartment off Kanakapura Road, said that their community is yet to take BWSSB connection as the residents feel it is a huge upfront investment, when there is no guarantee over adequate water supply.

"Four of the many borewells in our apartment complexes had dried up. After two years of good rains, we have rejuvenated them. With modest additional water from tankers, we are able to manage ourselves well. In this scenario, residents are not ready to pay over ₹1 lakh for a BWSSB connection," he said.

Satish Mallya, of Bangalore Apartments Federation (BAF) explained that there were two categories of apartments over the issue.

"In several apartments, the builders had collected money towards providing water connections from home buyers, but had not deposited the same with BWSSB. We have held tripatriate meetings with apartment associations, builders and BWSSB and the process to resolve this issue is on," he said.

"In the second case where flat owners need to pay for new connections, many are still not convinced of the Return on Investment for paying such huge fees and taking a BWSSB connection. The Board is not able to give us an assurance of the quantum of water that it will provide to each household. Flat owners are asking as to why they should take a BWSSB connection if they are to still supplement it with either borewell or tanker water," Mr. Mallya explained.

Poor response

- Targeted connections under Cauvery Stage V: **3,50,000 by 2028**
- Existing connections in 110 villages prior to Stage V: **1,12,990**
- New connections given under Stage V after commissioning in October 2024: **87,000**
- Total physical connections completed under Stage V: **1,99,990**
- Total individual house/plot connections: **1,80,290**
- Total multi-dwelling/ apartment connections: **4,465**
- Total commercial / industrial connections: **19,286**
- Average application processing time: **14 days** for residential, **42 days** for commercial and apartment connections
- Total revenue collected (connection fees, pro-rata, etc.): **₹1,337.31 crore**
- Total project cost (original estimate): **₹5,550 crore**

Source: BWSSB

IISc, IIT-M join forces with GBA for World Bank-funded water security and resilience project

Chetan B.C.
BENGALURU

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has roped in the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) to drive the progress of its ambitious World Bank-funded Bengaluru Water Resilience Project.

The project will receive over ₹3,500 crore in funding from the World Bank, with key stakeholders including the GBA, BWSSB, Minor Irrigation, and the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC).

The project is expected to be modelled on IISc's Urban Flood model for Bengaluru, with crucial modifications to align with GBA's objectives. This development follows discussions between GBA officials and World Bank representatives.

M. Maheshwar Rao, Chief Commissioner of GBA, stated that the initial meeting with World Bank officials was fruitful and that the water resilience project will soon move into the implementation phase. "Not just this, but the World Bank has offered technical assistance for GBA projects, which are currently under discussion and will be explored," Mr. Rao told *The Hindu*.

In addition to IISc and IIT-M, the project will involve the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), Bengaluru-based WELL Labs, and think tank CSTEP. Munish Moudgil, Special Commissioner (Revenue), GBA, confirmed that the two private agencies will contribute their services under a non-financial memorandum.

A GBA source involved in the project explained that the civic authority aims not only to mitigate flooding caused by poor stormwater drain infrastructure but also to improve overall water security in the city. This includes rainwater storage and harvesting, watershed development, and addressing long-term challenges such as floods, droughts, and other climate-related risks.

For example, the project will strengthen stormwater drains (SWDs), prevent the concretisation of drains and lakes to raise underground water levels, identify natural solutions for flood-prone areas, and establish maintenance plans for SWDs during summer months.

The implementation of the project will be managed by Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Ltd. (BSMILE), a special-purpose vehicle established for mega projects.

World Bank water security project

Works	Funding (in crores)
Strengthening SWDs, lakes, nature based solutions	697.2
Circular economy and sewage removal	332
Enhancing scientific understanding	298.8
Coordinated operations and maintenance for SWDs	522.9
Disaster risk management reforms and operationalisation	639.1
Increasing own source revenue & fiscal and budgetary management compliance	747
Strengthening financial foundation	207.5
Risk & resilience financing	83
Front end fee	8.3

Source: World Bank document

LoP's escort vehicle driver found dead

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 34-year-old head constable of the Bengaluru Armed Reserve Force, serving as the escort vehicle driver of Leader of Opposition in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly R. Ashok, allegedly ended his life at his house under Byatarayanapura police station limits on Wednesday.

The deceased, identified as Sharanappa, was a native of Kalaburagi. He was working as a driver for the last two and half years, and lived with his wife Shailashri and two daughters in Bapuji Nagar.

The incident reportedly occurred when no one from his family was present at their home. Sharanappa did not go to work on Wednesday and handed over the charge to a replacement driver stating that he needed to go to Mantralaya for personal work.

His brother-in-law found him dead when he visited the house. The reason behind taking this step is yet to be ascertained as no death note was found. The Byatarayanapura police have registered a case.

Mr. Ashok, who visited the spot, said, "He was a good person with no bad habits and lived with his family with no issues."

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: KIRAN at 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help.)

BU hosts 60th convocation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Referring to Bengaluru as the Silicon Valley of India, startup capital, and innovation hub, Prahlada Rama Rao, former Director of Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), who delivered the convocation address at the 60th annual convocation of Bangalore University on Wednesday, said, "You belong here, inheritors of this culture of changemakers, problem-solvers, and bold dreamers."

A total of 30,300 students were eligible to receive their degrees. Among them, 157 students received 298 gold medals, and 61 students received 132 cash prizes. A total of 140 students were awarded their Ph.D., degrees.

Urging graduates to become catalysts of innovation, growth, and nation-building, Mr. Rao said the youth have always been a transformative force in human history, urging graduates to draw strength not merely from education but from "clarity, commitment, and perseverance."

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SURGEON
DISTRICT HOSPITAL, UDUPI-576101
Ph: (0820)2520555/2530333 [Telefax] Email: dsudupi@gmail.com

Recruitment of Junior Consultant on contract basis for DNB course

The **District Hospital, Udupi,** invites eligible and interested candidates to attend a **Walk-in Interview** on **18/10/2025 10.00 AM** for the post of **Junior Consultanton a contractual basis** under the DNB Course, Karnataka Government.

Details of the Position:

Sl	Name of the department & No of Post	Consolidated Pay
1	Junior consultant in Psychiatry -1	1.30 lakhs per months

Qualification & age: Specialist with PG degree MD/DNB with minimum of 5 years' experience post PG degree qualification. The age shall be less than 67 years. Preference will be given to those with PG teaching experience. For Further information can contact 9663556409

ಜಾಹಿರಾತು/ಹನುಡು/ಕೆಮಸ್ ಎಂಂಪಿ/443/25–26 ದಿ: 08.10.2025

Sd/- District surgeon, District Hospital. Udupi

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LIMITED
ELCOT
9th Floor, Sigapi Aachi Building, 18/3, Rukmani Lakshmipathi Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008. www.elcot.in | +91 44 2855 6100 | spltender@elcot.in.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Tender No. ELCOT-ST-REV03-2025-0032

ELCOT invites tender for "Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Laptops for Department of Survey and Settlement". For complete details, please visit **www.elcot.in or www.tntenders.gov.in.** Pre-bid meeting: **16.10.2025, 11 am.** Last date for submission of e-bids: **11.11.2025, 3 PM.** For queries: **spltender@elcot.in.**

DIPR/5584/Tender/2025 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

SPECIAL BRANCH
POLICE HEADQUARTER, M.P., BHOPAL
No. SB/Store/2025-25 (306) Bhopal, Dated 30-09-2025

ONLINE E-TENDER NOTICE

E-tender are invited by Assistant Inspector General of Police, Special Branch (G) M.P., Bhopal on behalf of DGP MP Bhopal for the following item on website https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app:-

S. No.	Name of Item(s)	Qty.	Tender Fees (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Tender No.
			Paid Online Through mptenders.gov.in		
1	Non Linear Junction Detector (NLJD)	44	15,000/-	17,16,000/-	1st Tender

1. Cost of tender document (Tender Fee) is non refundable and cannot be exempted in any condition & **must submit online through website** https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app.
2. Tender document can be download from the website of MP Police (www.mppolice.gov.in)
3. Bids shall be submitted online only at MP Tenders website: https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app

4. Tender Schedule:

No.	Tender Activity	Date & Time
i	E-Tender Publish Date	01/10/2025 at 1700 hrs.
ii	Tender document download Start Date	02/10/2025 up to 1700 hrs.
iii	Submission of written queries - through e-mail: **aigg-sb@mppolice.gov.in**	**08/10/2025 up to 1700 hrs.**
iv	Pre Bid Meeting along with written queries	09/10/2025 at 1200 hrs.
v	Bid Submission Start Date	13/10/2025 at 1000 hrs.
vi	Last date of online e-Tender submission	21/10/2025 up to 1600 hrs.
vii	Bid will be opened on	22/10/2025 up to 1600 hrs.
viii	Demonstration from	28/10/2025 at 12.00 hrs.

5. Intending Bidders are advised to visit this website regularly till closing date of submission to keep themselves updated as any change/ modification in the tender will be intimated through this website only by corrigendum /addendum/ amendment.
6. Bids will be opened as per date/time as mentioned in the Tender. Critical Date Sheet. After online opening of Technical-Bid the results of their qualification as well Price-Bid opening will be intimated later.

DIG of Police
Intelligence (G) M.P. Bhopal
Tel. No. 0755-2443654

G19706/25

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIALSERVICES
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - I, KARNATAKA
4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road Bengaluru - 560001

Form No. 14 (See Regulation 33(2))
DEMAND NOTICE
Notice under Sections 25 to 28 of the Recovery of Debts & Bankruptcy Act, 1993 And Rule 2 of Second Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961 as amended
RC 75/2024 in OA 840/2021
STATE BANK OF INDIA Vs SUSHMITHA P.

In the Matter of (CH 1) State Bank of India, RASMEC Hosur Branch, at Sri Vaari Building, Plot No. 2, SIPCOT Industrial Estate, Phase -1 Zuzuvadi, Hosur, Tamil Nadu - 635126. **.... Applicant Bank/ Certificate Holder**

To
(CD 1) Smt. Sushmitha P., D/o. Sri Palakshappa Halasuru Basavanna, Residing at : No. 918, 7th Main Road, Raghavendra Block, Srinagar, Bengaluru -560 050.
(CD 2) Sri Mahadeva Swamy S/o. Sri Shivanna, Residing at : No. 91B, 7th Main Road, Avalahalli Main Road, Raghavendra Block, Srinagar, Bengaluru -560 050. **... Defendants/Certificate Debtors**

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BENGALURU (DRT 1) in **OA/840/2021** an amount of **Rs.5306670/-** (Rupees Fifty Three Lakhs Six Thousands Six Hundred and Seventy Only) along with cost, expenses and future interest @ 7.90 % p.a. compound interest with monthly rests w.e.f. 04.10.2021 till realization.and costs of **Rs.92692.00** (Rupees Ninety Two Thousands Six Hundred and Ninety Two Only) has become due against you (jointly and severally/fully/limited) 2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 and Rules there under.3.You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing. **4.** You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on **02.07.2024 at 10.30 a.m.**for further proceedings.. **5**. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will be liable to pay:(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/ execution proceedings. (b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processess and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.
Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on **09.05.2024**

Sd/- (Sanjiv Kumar)
Recovery Officer- I

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
Ministry of Finance, Department of Fiancial Services
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-1, KARNATAKA
4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road Bengaluru - 560001

Form No. 14 (See Regulation 33(2))
DEMAND NOTICE
Notice under Sections 25 to 28 of the Recovery of Debts & Bankruptcy Act, 1993 and Rule 2 of Second Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961 as amended
RC No. 325/2024
STATE BANK OF INDIA Vs SRI SAGAR M.

In the Matter of (CH 1) State Bank of India, RASMEC Hosur Branch, at Sri Vaari Building, Plot No. 2, SIPCOT Industrial Estate, Phase -1 Zuzuvadi, Hosur, Tamil Nadu - 635126. **.... Applicant (s)**

To
(CD 1) Sri Sagar M S/o. Sri Manjunath, Residing at : No. 468, 8th Main, NGEF Layout, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560 072. **... Defendants**

CH Name	Int. Type/ mode	Int. Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	Amount (Rs.)	Int. as per Order date	RC Amount	Re mark
1. State Bank of India	Compound Int. (monthly)	7.40	04.10.2021	31.08.2023	5258565	0	5258565	

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BENGALURU (DRT-1) in **OA /819/2021** an amount of **Rs.5258565/-** (Rupees Fifty Two Lakhs Fifty Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Sxity Five Only) along with cost, expenses and interest w.e.f 04.10.2021 till realization.and costs of **Rs.91392/-** (Rupees Ninety One Thousands Three Hundred nine Two Only) has become due against you (jointly and severally/fully/limited)

CD Name	Loan Type	Int. Type /Mode	Int. Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	Amount (Rs.)	Lib-ility Type	Int. as on Order date	RC Amo unt	Re mark
1.Sri Sagar M	Home Loan	Compound Int (monthly)	7.40	04.10.2021	31.08.2023	5258565	Fully	Int. as on Order date	5066605	

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under. **3**.You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing. **4.** You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 11.02.2025 at 10.30 a.m.for further proceedings. **5**. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay: (a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/ execution proceedings. (b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processess and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.
Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on **04.01.2025**

Sd/- (Sanjiv Kumar) ,
Recovery Officer -I

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VAISHALI Sumit Gandhi w/o Sumit Bipinchandra Gandhi, r/o: Republic Of Whitefield, K045, 23, Kundalahalli Rd, Divyasree Techno Park, Blr– 560037. Have changed my name as Vaishali Harshad Pandya. Vide affidavit on 07/10/2025.

I, AKSHAY Murali Muralidharan s/o Muraleedharan Krishnan Nair, r/o:J–1805, Jackson Block, Brigade Metropolis, ITPB Rd, Mahadevapura PO, Garudacharpalya, Blr–560048. Have changed my name as Akshay Murali. Vide affidavit on 07/10/2025.

I, MURALIDHARAN s/o Krishnan Nair, r/o: J–1805, Jackson Block, Brigade Metropolis, ITPB Rd, Mahadevapura PO, Garudacharpalya, Blr–560048. Have changed my name as Muraleedharan Krishnan Nair. Vide affidavit on 07/10/2025.

I, VIJAYAMMA, m/o Service number–14658862X, Rank–Hav, Name–Sandeep vs, residing at santhosh bhavan, veliyam, pongodu, kollam, kerala, pin–691540. I have changed my name from Vijayamma to Vijayamma K vide affidavit dated 07–10–2025 before notary A.R Muneer Ahmed Bangalore

I, RAVICHANDRA Jagadish, S/o Janicklass Dorairaj, R/at No.346/A, 2nd Floor, 4th Cross, Kaveri Street, Udayanagar, Bengaluru-560016, have changed my name to Ravichandra Janicklass, vide affidavit dated: 06.10.2025, before Notary S.I.Balaguru, Bengaluru

I,NITIN SRIHARI SRINIVASAN S/o Srinivasan Subramani R/o A 10–804 Provident Harmony Chokkanahalli Main Road Rk Hegde Nagar Bengaluru Karnataka–560064 changed my name to NITIN SRIHARI.

LOST & FOUND

LOST CERTIFICATE

VADHOOTH SATHAR alias S VADHOOTH are jointly holding 300 shares of Face Value Rs. 10/- in United Spirits Limited (formerly: McDowell & Co. Limited), UB Tower, #24 Vittal Mallya Road, Bengaluru 560001 in Folio MS139495 bearing Share Certificate Number 509205 with Distinctive Numbers from 43054189-43054488.

I, hereby give notice that the said Certificate(s) are lost and I have applied to the Company for issue of duplicate Share Certificates and exchange of the same with Face Value Rs.2/- certificate.

The public is hereby warned against purchasing or dealing in anyway with the said Share Certificate. The Company has informed me that if they do not receive any objection within 15 days from the date of issue of this advertisement for withholding of transfer to IEPF Authority, Company will submit its response to IEPF Authority for transferring the aforesaid shares to the demat account of the undersigned, after which no claim will be entertained by the company in that behalf.

VADHOOTH SATHAR
Folio No: Ms139495
Place: Pappitreddipatti
Date : 09.10.2025

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE FIRST ADDITIONAL DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, ERNAKULAM
PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SERVICE OF SUMMONS

To,
Joe Thomas George,
Flat No. A202, Jahnavi Meadows Apt, Begur, Main Yellenhalli,
Bangalore
Whereas summons issued to you in **Crl.R.P.. No.48/2023** filed by Thajmina P.T is pending before the Hon'ble Court of the First Additional District and Sessions Judge, Ernakulam and whereas the Court is satisfied that you are deliberately avoiding service or your whereabouts are unknown, the Hon'ble Court by order dated 26.05.2025 has ordered substituted service of summons by way of publication in a daily newspaper.
You are hereby required to appear in person or through an advocate before the Hon'ble Court of the First Additional District and Sessions Judge, Ernakulam on or before **20.11.2025**, to answer the said complaint.
Take notice that in default of your appearance on the said date, the case will be heard and decided in your absence, and ex parte orders may be passed against you.
Given under my hand and the seal of this Hon'ble Court on this the 29th day of September 2025.

Isac Sanjay
Counsel for petitioner

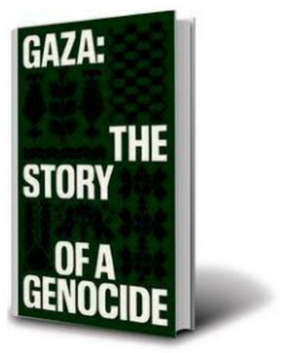
IN THE COURT OF THE FIRST ADDITIONAL DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, ERNAKULAM
PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SERVICE OF SUMMONS

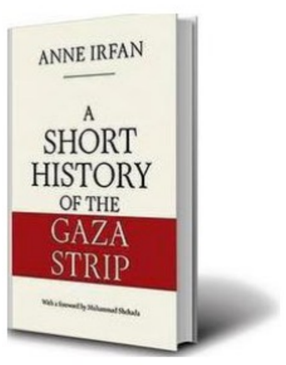
To,
Joe Thomas George,
Flat No. A202, Jahnavi Meadows Apt, Begur, Main Yellenhalli,
Bangalore
Whereas summons issued to you in **Crl.R.P.. No.47/2023** filed by Thajmina P.T is pending before the Hon'ble Court of the First Additional District and Sessions Judge, Ernakulam and whereas the Court is satisfied that you are deliberately avoiding service or your whereabouts are unknown, the Hon'ble Court by order dated 26.05.2025 has ordered substituted service of summons by way of publication in a daily newspaper.
You are hereby required to appear in person or through an advocate before the Hon'ble Court of the First Additional District and Sessions Judge, Ernakulam on or before **20.11.2025**, to answer the said complaint.
Take notice that in default of your appearance on the said date, the case will be heard and decided in your absence, and ex parte orders may be passed against you.
Given under my hand and the seal of this Hon'ble Court on this the 29th day of September 2025.

Isac Sanjay
Counsel for petitioner

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Quiet resistance: Palestinian pupils attend a school set up by the Mayasem Association for Culture with UNICEF, at a displacement camp in the Gaza Strip on October 7. AFP





Anatomy of a genocide: how it feels to live amid death and ruins in Gaza

In two years of Israel's assault on Gaza after Hamas' attack on October 7, 2023, more than 65,000 Palestinians have been killed, many of them women and children, and thousands displaced. While two books collect testimonies, another explains the conflict in Gaza, providing a historical context

Sudipta Datta

Months before a United Nations Commission of Inquiry concluded in September 2025 that Israel has committed genocide in Gaza, Fatima Bhutto and Sonia Faleiro had begun work to record the human toll of Israel's relentless attack on the narrow strip since October 2023 following Hamas' assault on Israel. In *Gaza: The Story of a Genocide* (Verso), a volume which both of them edited, they write in the Preface that the collection of testimonies is "a way to ensure that neither the violence nor its many victims are forgotten." At least 65,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza in 23 months, many of them women and children.

Established writers and new voices share their stories with writer and poet Mosab Abu Toha using the verb 'genocided' to describe the widespread destruction in his Introduction. "Whether or not we reported on each story, the killing machine never failed to find something to finish off," he writes. Even as bombs fell, many in Gaza wrote stories, poems, posted videos and photos. Many of these chroniclers were killed – at least 230 journalists and scores of doctors and aid workers lost their lives targeted by drones and bombs – leading Mosab Abu Toha to ask: "How many stories do we need to write? How many poems? How many places? How many paintings? How many short movies? How many tears? What can we do to bring life to Gaza?"

Even though Gazans have been broadcasting their destruction in real-time, why is it that the world has failed to act? The questions are impossible to answer in the face of gruesome facts like this: "Gaza now bears the grim distinction of having the largest population of child amputees," as Yara Hawari notes in the essay, 'On Israeli Settler Colonialism', providing an overview on how things came to such a pass. Most of Gaza lies in ruins, with hospitals, schools, sewage systems, and desalination plants destroyed. The majority of homes have been levelled, displacing families in several waves, and hunger stalks Gaza with Israel reluctant to allow adequate aid and "everyone withering away from a lack of food."

Articles on Hamas (Tareq Baconi) and the footage of the death and destruction shared by Israeli defence forces (Mary Turfah) foreground historical and ground realities. Mariam Barghouti writes about what is going on parallely in the West Bank and how "Israel does not value Palestinian life.... For Palestinians, Israel's message is clear: be displaced or die."

'Cradle to grave'

Dr. Tanya Haj-Hassan narrates her experience at Al-Aqsa Hospital to Bhutto, noting that the "diversity of patients and the sheer scale of suffering was overwhelming" with mass casualties bringing in dozens, sometimes hundreds, of patients. As a paediatric intensive care doctor, she primarily treated children, who seemed to make up a large proportion of the injured. The demographic was "cradle to grave," including patients of all ages – infants, toddlers, children, adults and the elderly.

In *Voices of Resistance* (Comma Press), four women, Batool Abu Akleen, Sondos Sabra, Nahil Mohana and Ala'a Obaid share their diaries written between October 7, 2023, the day of the Hamas attack, and March 2025. In her Foreword, Gillian Slovo underscores the horrific situation on the ground: "Their diaries take us to a place where the dropping off of Wi-Fi signal is a sign that tanks are closing in; where people have developed a whole new vocabulary for describing the sounds of different bombs; and where it becomes normal for an eight-year-old to casually ask her aunt how she would like to die."

For Gazan children, life has always been difficult, for as Sabra points out, alongside learning "the alphabet of letters, we learn the alphabet of wars."

With her own eyes, Sabra sees the remnants of missiles and bombs marked 'Made in America' and 'Made in India'. "Has the entire world united to kill us?," she wonders. During a brief ceasefire in March 2025, the main focus of discussion were the things Gazans will do once it comes into effect. "The list of overheard wishes is long," writes Mohana, "We shall say goodbye to queues at the baker's," is one entry, another says this: "I will bury my son who remains under the rubble of the house."

History of oppression

In *A Short History of the Gaza Strip* (Simon & Schuster), historian Anne Irfan explains the history of Gaza through six episodes from 1948 to the 2020s. Even before 2023, Gaza had "long been in a state of crisis," – the majority of Palestinians in Gaza today are refugees who were expelled and displaced across the country in 1948, says Irfan. She highlights the point that for 75 years, Palestinian people had endured dispossession, displacement, occupation, impoverishment, collective punishment and ethnic cleansing – with those in Gaza often bearing the brunt of it. "After Hamas took over power in 2007, Israel imposed a total blockade on the Gaza Strip that made it near-impossible for anyone to get in or out. As a result, many from Gaza's younger generations have never left its 141 square miles."

Faint hope?

U.S. President Donald Trump recently announced a ceasefire plan but Israel is yet to end its bombardment of Gaza. "This war destroyed everything" has become a haunting refrain on the tongues of the Palestinians in Gaza, says Laila Al-Arian in her essay (Gaza: The Story of a Genocide). Omar Barghouti, human rights activist and co-founder of the Palestinian-led Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement and a recipient of the 2017 Gandhi Peace Award, tells Bhutto that it is crucial to remember that Palestinians have never given up hope even in the face of "Israel's ruthless regime of oppression."

In the meantime, poet and activist Refaat Alareer's poem 'If I Must Die', written just weeks before his assassination in an Israeli airstrike, has become "a symbol of Palestinian resilience and resistance." Recalling Emily Dickinson's 'If I Should Die', his poem opens with the lines: If I must die,/ you must live/ to tell my story.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

A quiz on Kepler's Supernova, one of the most studied stellar explosions in history

Prathmesh Kher

QUESTION 1
In which constellation did Kepler's Supernova (SN 1604) occur?

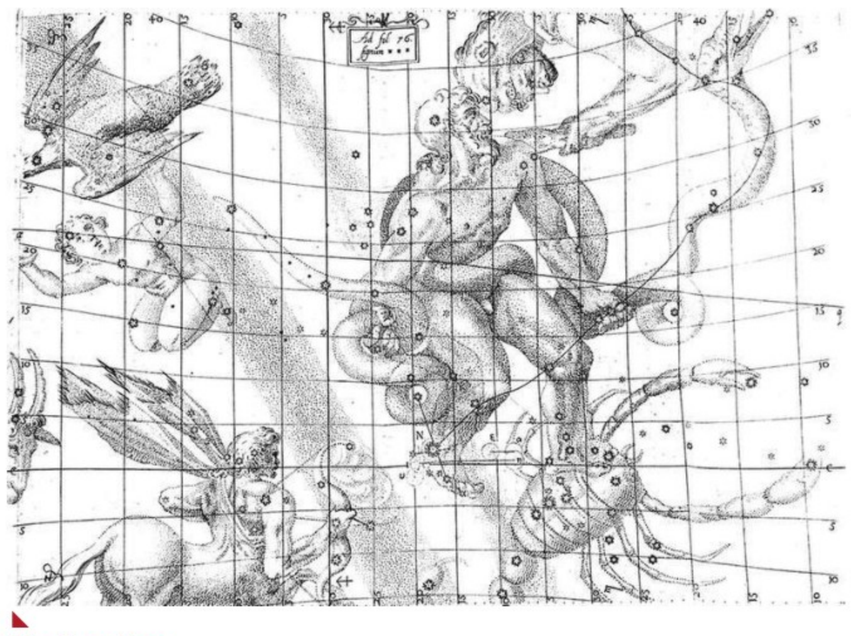
QUESTION 2
What type of supernova was SN 1604 classified as?

QUESTION 3
What is the title of Kepler's 1606 book detailing his observations of the supernova?

QUESTION 4
What was the maximum duration for which SN 1604 remained visible to the naked eye?

QUESTION 5
What was the primary composition of the progenitor star of SN 1604?

QUESTION 6
Although it is popularly known as 'Kepler's Supernova', who was the first person to record an observation of SN 1604?



Visual question:
Identify this drawing. ARCHIVES, CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Vladimir Putin served Russia in this major capacity as well. **Ans: Prime Minister**
2. The name of the security agency for which Mr. Putin first worked as a foreign intelligence officer. **Ans: KGB**
3. In March 2023, the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant for Mr. Putin for mainly this war crime. **Ans: Illegal child abductions during a war**
4. Mr. Putin's grandfather was a personal cook to these Russian revolutionaries. **Ans: Vladimir Lenin and Joseph Stalin**
5. In May 2024, Putin was inaugurated as president of Russia for the _____ time. **Ans: Fifth**
Visual: Identify this Russian politician. **Ans: Boris Yeltsin. Mr. Putin was his successor**
Early Birds: Tamal Biswas| Bharath Viswanathan| Rajib Ganguly| Suchit Narottam| Prashansa Lohumi

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

S. Upendran

"I'm going to see a movie tomorrow. Can you guess which one?"

"The movie that millions of people all over the world have seen! *The Titanic*, I suppose?"

"Good guess. But tell me, what does 'titanic' mean?"

"It means 'gigantic, immense'. For example, a titanic effort is needed if we are to rid our city of crime."

"It would take a titanic effort to get our streets clean."

"The two soft drink companies are locked in a titanic struggle for control of the Indian market."

"Can I say, Gandhi was a titanic figure during our struggle for independence?"

"You certainly can! Do you know where the word 'titanic' comes from?"

"I have no idea."

"It comes from the word 'titan'."

"From the watch?"

"No, no, not the watch! You see, the 'Titans' were giants with enormous strength who fought against the Greek god, Zeus."

"That's interesting. Since the Titans were giants, I suppose when you call someone a 'titan' it means he/she is a giant."

"That's right. The person doesn't have to be a giant physically. He/she can be a giant intellectually as well. He/she can be a person of some importance. For example, many people believe that my neighbour is a financial titan."

"Amitabh Bachchan is one of the titans of the film industry. Can I say that?"

"You certainly can. Ever since we exploded the nuclear bombs, world opinion has been against us. We must stand up like titans against the so-called developed nations."

"You sound really patriotic today! What's got into you?"

"I am just happy that the rest of the world has finally taken notice of India."

"While you are in this happy mood, tell me, how do you pronounce n..e..r..d?"

"It rhymes with the words 'bird', 'heard', and 'curd'. Any idea what 'nerd' means?"

"No, I don't. I came across the word in a newspaper article recently."

"A nerd is an unattractive and clumsy person. It is also used to refer to someone who is very studious."

"You mean an intellectual?"

"Something like that. For example, my friend Raja was a nerd in school."

"I don't have the reputation of being a nerd."

"I don't think you ever will get that kind of a reputation. I understand that my boss' son, Venkatesh, is a computer nerd."

"A computer nerd?"

"A computer nerd is someone who spends a lot of time sitting in front of the computer. It's his passion. You may even call it his obsession."

"So a computer nerd is someone who is addicted to the computer!"

"That's right."

Published in The Hindu on May 26, 1998.

Word of the day

Prosaic:
not fanciful or imaginative; lacking wit or imagination; not challenging; dull and lacking excitement

Synonyms: earthbound, pedestrian, commonplace, humdrum, unglamourous, matter-of-fact

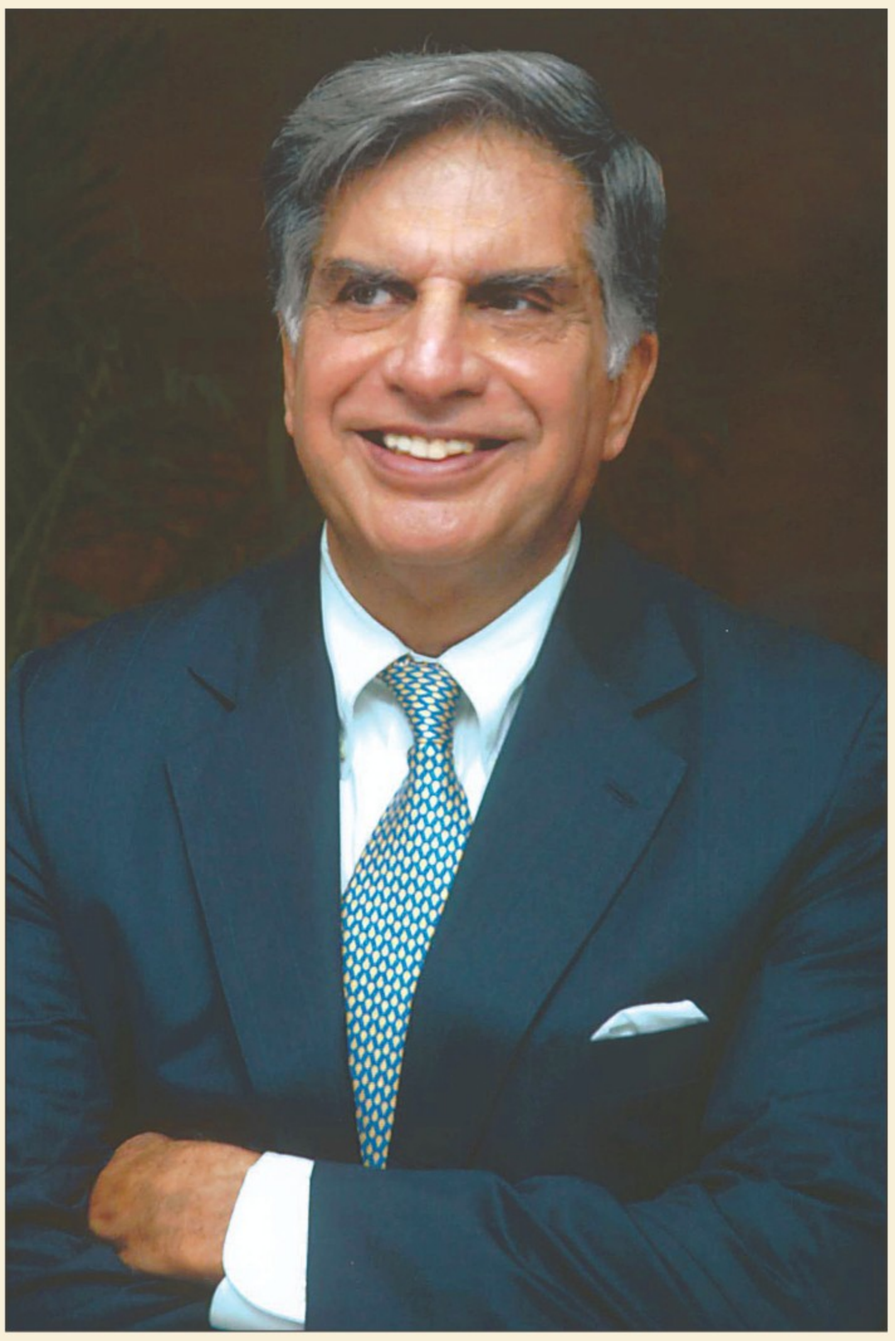
Usage: *It was a prosaic and unimaginative essay.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/prosaicpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /prəʊˈzeɪɪk/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

In Fond Remembrance



PADMA VIBHUSHAN

MR. RATAN N TATA

28.12.1937 – 09.10.2024

The lessons you taught us in humility,
purpose and generosity will forever stay with us.

TATA

TATA SONS & TATA GROUP OF COMPANIES

India Mushroom Summit from November 3

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

India is one of the countries with low mushroom consumption, despite mushrooms being a rich source of nutrition. According to experts, the per capita consumption of mushrooms in India is a mere 100 gm per year, compared to 15 to 20 kg in China, 10 kg in the U.S., and 8 to 10 kg in Europe.

With a huge potential for the country to catch up with mushroom production and consumption, the University of Agricultural Sciences-Bengaluru is trying to give a push to mushroom industry by joining hands with Mushroom Exchange and others to organise India Mushroom Summit-2025 in Bengaluru from November 3 to 7.

Briefing mediapersons, Anurag Saxena, founder director of Milkiway, which is the co-organiser, said experts and entrepreneurs from 11 countries, including the Netherlands, Poland, Italy, Nepal, and Bhutan, would attend the event that is aimed at increasing mushroom consumption through increase in mushroom cultivation.

The event will have a two-day conference and exhibition from November 3 to 4 and a three-day training session on cultivation of mushrooms from November 5 to 7.

RWAs remain divided on Social and Educational Survey

While some have agreed to cooperate, others are refusing over what they call 'privacy concerns' and suspicion about the 'purpose of the exercise'; several RWAs have objected to the nature of questions being asked calling them 'intrusive'

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

Even as the Social and Educational Survey continues across the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) limits, several resident welfare associations (RWAs) remain divided over participation. While some have agreed to cooperate, others are refusing over what they call "privacy concerns" and suspicion about the "purpose of the exercise".

Several RWAs have objected to the nature of questions being asked, calling them "intrusive" and beyond the scope of a caste survey.

"The government is collecting personal details about assets and family background in the name of social mapping. If this is a caste survey, we should be asked only about one thing – our caste. The rest of everything is unnecessary," argued a representative of the Venkateshwara Nagar RWA, unmindful of the stated purpose of the survey being measuring social and educational backwardness.

Enumerators during the Social and Education Survey at Nagendra Block in Bengaluru recently.
K. MURALI KUMAR

> The govt. is collecting personal details about assets and family background in the name of social mapping. If this is a caste survey, we should be asked only about our caste. The rest of everything is unnecessary
> A RWA representative

Some others worry about the survey's implications for welfare schemes and that the data could be "misused for political or economic targeting".

"Those who are not from backward classes don't see any use from this. There's also a concern that it might be used to deny benefits under guarantee schemes. We may not gain from it, but we don't want to lose either, so it's better not to participate," argued Ramesh Krishna, a resident of an apartment complex in South Bengaluru.

Representation

Several RWAs, on the other hand, have chosen to cooperate, with members noting that they see the exercise as an opportunity to ensure accurate representation in government records and policymaking.

Satish Mallya, president of the Bengaluru Apartments' Federation (BAF), representing over 1,000 apartment complexes, said that they communicated to the members that a survey will be held, and enumerators will be coming at any time, requesting them to cooperate.

Mr. Mallya added that they suggested the residents do the survey online and submit it directly, as apartment complexes are generally large, and it may take time to finish off the process.

"The new corporations' commissioners also reached out. They said we will be having an online meeting where the commissioners or officials will be present to address apprehensions and clarify the intent of the exercise," Mr. Mallya said.

Vice-president of Purva Highland RWA, Siddarameshwar, said that the survey in their complex is yet to begin and that they too have urged the residents to cooperate but have clarified that it is not compulsory.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, one of the commissioners said, "We are holding meetings with RWA representatives. In some areas, we have been able to convince residents to come on board. In a day or two, we'll have a clearer picture of which communities are still not cooperating. The resistance is largely seen from residents who are not native to Karnataka," the official added.

From Page One

Data visualisation project attempts to read between metro lines

Yet another interesting data point was on the increase in footfall at R.V. Road.

"From previously being one of the lower footfall stations on the network, to now being the sole interchange point between the Yellow Line and the rest of the network, footfall has increased from the earlier 15,000 passengers to now over 75,000 passengers per day," reads the analysis.

Several broader travel patterns too emerged from the data at hand. For example, while weekdays show two peaks at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., weekends see a broad wave of travel that builds from noon through evening, shows the data.

While stations like Pattandur Agrahara, Trinity and Indiranagar are busier on weekdays, Chickpete and Sandal Soap Factory are more popular on weekends.

Mr. Matthew and Mr. Bhargav have also filed RTI responses to BMTC and Indian Railways and are awaiting responses. "Our pitch is that this kind of data should not take an RTI request to be made public. Authorities like BMRCL and BMTC should make such data public. Bengaluru has several experts in public transport and policy and specialists who are into data crunching and visualisation. Together, they can convert the information into useful insights. which could lead to a lot more action," says Mr. Matthew.

Foundation Day today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The University of Agricultural Sciences-Bengaluru, which is the State's first university in agriculture and allied sectors, is celebrating its diamond jubilee on Thursday. University Vice-Chancellor Dr. S.V. Suresha said the 60th Foundation Day celebrations will be inaugurated by Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwara, who is also the alumnus of the university.

To mark the occasion, the university is set to present 96 awards in various categories, he said. A newly developed web portal will be launched on the occasion. University Chancellor and Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy will participate among other dignitaries.

Give Bigg Boss a chance: DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) ordered the closure of Vels Studio and Entertainment Ltd., located on the outskirts of the city, for non-compliance with environmental norms, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said the makers of 'Bigg Boss Kannada' need to be given a chance to rectify their mistakes and be allowed to reopen the popular show.

Vels Studio and Entertainment Ltd. (Jolly Wood Studios and Adventures), in Bidadi Industrial Area in Bengaluru South District, is where the current edition of the Bigg Boss Kannada reality television show is being shot.

The popular reality show was stopped just 10 days after it commenced after it began. The studio was sealed following violations of environment rules.

D.K. Shivakumar

Mr. Shivakumar said he had enquired about the issue with the KSPCB and instructed the Deputy Commissioner that "employment is important and give them an opportunity to rectify."

Mr. Shivakumar had inaugurated the house where the show was conducted.

"I have spoken to the DC and the SP. We have to look at the larger picture. If there is a mistake on the makers' side, they have to rectify it. I have asked them to give the show an opportunity. I saw the news on TV and spoke to the chairman of the KSPCB. Bigg Boss or any other entertainment shows are necessary. Private businesses should come and invest. If mistakes happen, they have to set it right, this is my suggestion," Mr. Shivakumar said.

Shortened version telecast

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The popular reality show was affected on Tuesday, with a shortened version of the episode being telecast on Colors Kannada. Even on Wednesday, the makers weren't able to broadcast a full-fledged episode due to lack of content.

The organisers are hoping for a legal clearance on Thursday so that the show resumes in its complete form from Friday.

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, OCT. 09	
RISE	06:09 SET 18:04
RISE	19:53 SET 08:04
FRIDAY, OCT. 10	
RISE	06:09 SET 18:04
RISE	20:49 SET 09:10
SATURDAY, OCT. 11	
RISE	06:09 SET 18:03
RISE	21:51 SET 10:16

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	32	24
Bengaluru	29	20

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower is a chance.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be pleasant. Mostly dry weather is likely.

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THE HINDU
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KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
#49, East Wing, 4 & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru-560 001. Phone No. 080-22267905 website: www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-18/830/2025-26 Date: 08.10.2025

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GoK KPP Portal Only)

Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below:

Name of the work: Formation of Roads & Asphalting for 30M & 24M Wide Construction of RCC Drains at Gamangatti Industrial Area, Dharwad Taluk & District.

- Last date for submission of bids is: 23.10.2025 up to 4.00 PM.

Applicants may download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-2
KIADB, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/3141/AKAR/2025-26

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020
Date: 08.10.2025

SHORT-TERM TENDER

Bangalore Development Authority invites tender for the following works: **(1)** Selection of service provider for Design, development and implementation of a web-based portal for online sale of Flats-Indent No: BDA/2025-26/SE0071. **(2)** Establishment of IT operations Hub-Indent No: BDA/2025-26/SE0072. **(3)** Selection of service provider for manpower services-Indent No: BDA/2025-26/SE0073.

The tender process timelines are as given below: (1) Tender document availability on e-portal: **08.10.2025, 5.00 pm (2)** The final date for submission of bid: **23.10.2025, 5.00 pm. (3)** The date of opening of bids: **24.10.2025, 10.00 am.**

The interested bidder can login to the e-procurement portal **https://kppp.karntatka.gov.in** for further details on the above tenders. If you need further details, request the bidders to contact the EDP Cell of Bangalore Development Authority.

Note: Any changes to the tender documents or timeline will be published only on the e-procurement portal. All interested bidders are hereby requested to check the procurement portal regularly.

Sd/- Head of Department, EDP Cell, BDA, Bengaluru.

Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha
No. 113, R. V. Road, V. V. Puram, Bangalore-560 004
Phone: 22410151, 22429151, 26601152/53, 9900569151
E-mail: sssbn1vvp@sreenidhibank.com

PUBLIC NOTICE - POSSESSION NOTICE

APPENDIX-IV
(See Rule 8(1)) r/w Sec. 13(4)(a)

Sri. Lagadapati Malyadri Choudary

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (Central Act No.54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12),13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated **25/07/2025** calling upon the Borrowers to **Sri. Lagadapati Malyadri Choudary S/o L. Narasimham, Residing at Flat No.04, Ganesh Manor Plot No.40/41, 2nd Cross, Panduranga Nagar, Off B.G Road, Bangalore-560076,** demanding to repay the amount of **Rs.54,34,566/- (Rupees Fifty Four lakh Thirty Four Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty Six)** only together with Interest and Costs thereon, being the loan amount due by them, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers have failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property mortgaged to the Bank and described in Schedule herein below, together with all rights to transfer by way of Lease, assignment or sale for realising the above mentioned amount (Secured Asset), in exercise of the powers conferred on them under Section 13(4)(a) of the said Act read with Rule-8 of the said Rules on this **8th Day of October 2025.**

The borrower/s in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said property and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of M/s. Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha for a sum of **Rs. 56,32,001/- (Rupees Fifty Six Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand and One)** on **07/10/2025** together with interest and costs thereon.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Schedule-A: All that piece and parcel of immovable property i.e., land bearing No.31,32,33 and 34 formed in property No.152/1 situated at Doresanipalya, Bilekahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, now comes under jurisdiction of ward No.26, Panduranganagar, Bommanahalli CMC, Bangalore, comprising the property identification No.1114/593/666/152/1/31,32,33 and 34, site No,31, East to West 40 ft, North to South 60 ft, totally measuring 2400 Sq. ft., Site No.32, measuring East to West 45+43/2, North to South 60, totally measuring 2400 Sq.ft. Site No.33 measuring East to West 45 ft, North to South 70 ft, totally measuring 3150 Sq.ft and Site No.34 measuring East to West 40 ft, North to South 70 ft, totally measuring 2800 Sq.ft, all in all total 10990 Sq.ft., together with multistoried building constructed thereon known as "Honeydew" and bounded on: **East by:** 30 ft Road; **West by:** Property of Oxford Dental College; **North by:** Passage; **South by:** Passage.

Schedule-B: All that piece and parcel of apartment unit bearing No.P-3, situated at 4th Floor, building known as "Honeydew" with a super built up area of 1462 Sq.ft., with 3 bedrooms, 1 hall and 1 Kitchen, constructed on Schedule "A" property, having vitrified tiles for flooring, together with one car parking space.

Schedule-C: All that piece and parcel of 409 Sq.ft., of undivided land area in schedule A.

Date : 08/10/2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bengaluru Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha

Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha
No. 113, R. V. Road, V. V. Puram, Bangalore-560 004
Phone: 22410151, 22429151, 26601152/53, 9900569151
E-mail: sssbn1vvp@sreenidhibank.com

PUBLIC NOTICE - POSSESSION NOTICE

APPENDIX-IV
(See Rule 8(1)) r/w Sec. 13(4)(a)

Smt.Bhagyalakshmi .N

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (Central Act No.54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12),13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated **24/04/2025** calling upon the Borrowers to **Smt. Bhagyalakshmi .N W/o Sri. Manjunatha .K.G, residing at No. 08(7/3), Seethabyraweshwara Nilaya, 5th Cross, Byrappa Layout, R.M.V 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560094,** demanding to repay the amount of **Rs.13,16,078/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Sixteen Thousand and Seventy Eight only)** only together with Interest and Costs thereon, being the loan amount due by them, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers have failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property mortgaged to the Bank and described in Schedule herein below, together with all rights to transfer by way of Lease, assignment or sale for realising the above mentioned amount (Secured Asset), in exercise of the powers conferred on them under Section 13(4)(a) of the said Act read with Rule-8 of the said Rules on this **8th Day of October 2025.**

The borrower/s in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said property and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of M/s. Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha for a sum of **Rs.11,89,957/- (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Eighty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty Seven only)** on **07/10/2025** together with interest and costs thereon.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Muncipal No.5, PID No.100-72-5, situated at 1st cross, Behind Shanimahathma Temple, Nagasetty Halli, Bangalore, measuring East to West 36 feet and North to South 29 feet totally measuring at extent of 1044 Sqft along with residential building thereon and bounded on the. **East By:** Road; **West by:** Site No.8; **North by:** Site No.4; **South by:** Property of Narasegowda.

Date : 08/10/2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bengaluru Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha

Government of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTORATE OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION
9th Floor Vishweshwaraih Towers, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore 560001.
Telephone: 080-22866302 / 22867172 **Fax:** 080-22863576 /22861665
Email: sedmatech@gmail.com **Website:** www.municipaladmn.gov.in

No: 1802916 DMA/TECH/MGNV/31/2025 **Dated: 08.10.2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Tenders are invited in KPP Portal for Infrastructure Development works under Mahatma Gandhi Nagara Vikasa Yojana (Phase-2) Scheme as per UIDF guidelines in Hubballi-Dharwad. Kalaburgi, Belagavi and Tumakuru City Corporation limits. The details are as follows.

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Sl. No	Work Indent No.	Project cost (Rs. In Lakhs)
1.	DMA/202526/RD/WORK_INDENT 45809/CALL-2 Hubballi Dharwad City Corporation	2325.00
2.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT46382/CALL-2 Hubballi Dharwad City Corporation	2616.00
3.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT42475/CALL-2 Kalaburgi Dharwad City Corporation	2188.00
4.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT38452/CALL-2 Belagavi City Corporation	4700.00
	TENDER NOTIFICATION	
1.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT 47465 Hubballi Dharwad City Corporation	3994.00
2.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT47065 Hubballi Dharwad City Corporation	2534.00
3.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT43345 Tumakur City Corporation	4550.00
4.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT48713 Tumakur City Corporation	4605.00
5.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT48822 Tumakur City Corporation	3430.00

The interested bidders/agencies are requested to participate within the date stipulated in the KPP portal. Any further information can be obtained through KPP portal only.

Sd/-
Director, Directorate of Municipal Administration, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/3076/Zen/2025-26

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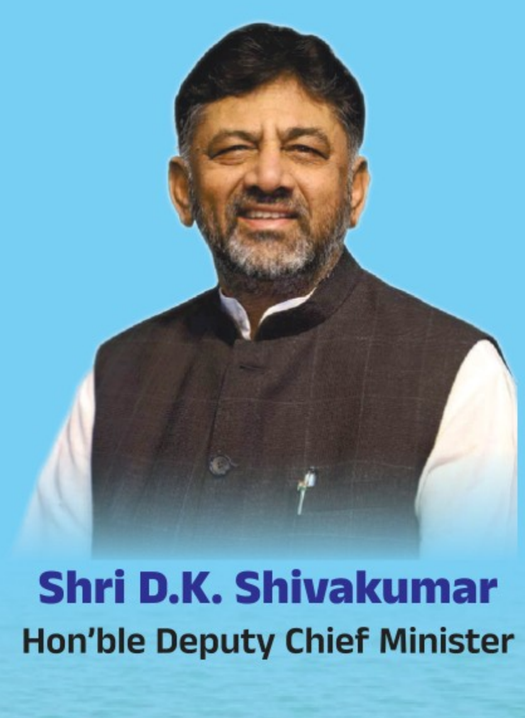
ISSN 0971 - 751X

Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Department of Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development



Shri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

WATER IS FUTURE

Water is the life force of the world

WATER IS FUTURE
WATER IS THE LIFE FORCE OF THE WORLD

9th October 2025
Thursday
at 4.00 pm.
Venue: **Banquet Hall**
Vidhana Soudha,
Bengaluru

Inauguration by
Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

August presence of
Shri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

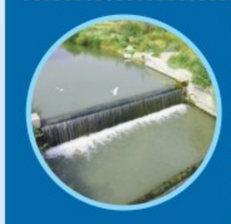
Presence of
Shri N.S. Boseraju
Hon'ble Minister for Minor Irrigation, Science & Technology

Presided by
Shri Rizwan Arshad
Hon'ble MLA, Shivajinagar Constituency

Tripartite Projects that revived Groundwater in the Bayaluseeme Region

KC Valley, HN Valley, and Vrishabhavathi Valley Projects: These ambitious initiatives recycle and treat wastewater through secondary-level purification to fill lakes across the semi-arid districts of **Kolar, Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru Urban, Chikkaballapur, and Ramanagara**. Over **700 lakes** have been rejuvenated in phases. As a result, **groundwater levels in nearby borewells have risen significantly.**

The projects have received **praise from the United Nations, the World Bank, and the Ministry of Jal Shakti, and are recognized as model initiatives in sustainable wastewater management across Asia.**



Water Conservation Structures Supporting Groundwater Recharge :

To enhance groundwater levels across Karnataka, over **8,000 water conservation structures** have been built - including check dams, bridge-cum-barrages, anicuts, pick-up weirs, and rainwater recharge pits. The Department has successfully managed **3,787 tanks,** providing irrigation to **over 25 lakh acres** of farmland, benefiting thousands of farmers.

Groundwater Growth – Karnataka's Prosperity

Due to various water conservation and lift irrigation projects, **groundwater levels have shown a marked rise in 150 taluks** across the State over the last two years. In the same period, **6 overexploited, 4 critical, and 10 semi-critical taluks** have shown significant improvement, demonstrating measurable groundwater recovery.

Monitoring Groundwater Quality and Levels

To monitor groundwater trends continuously, **2,714 observation borewells** and **2,214 digital water level indicators with telemetry systems** have been established. These networks collect and consolidate data **every six hours** for analysis.

An **annual groundwater assessment report** is jointly prepared by the Directorate of Groundwater and the Groundwater Board, enabling **efficient use, regulation, and sustainable management** of groundwater resources.

Technology-Driven 'Digital Water Stock' for Integrated Water Management

To ensure transparency and accountability in water conservation and management, the State is developing a **Digital Water Stock a technology-based platform that brings all water sources under one system.**

This platform will map and monitor, in real time: ● Source locations and catchment areas. ● Storage capacity.

The goal is to use this data to **formulate evidence-based policies** for sustainable groundwater development.

Lift Irrigation-Supporting the Farming Community

Across Karnataka **472 lift irrigation schemes** are being managed effectively. Through these, water has been supplied to **over 1,318 tanks,** providing irrigation to **more than 2 lakh acres** of agricultural land - directly benefiting the farming community.

Conservation of Water Bodies-A Shared Responsibility :

Out of **41,849 water bodies** in the State, **measurements for 35,989** have been completed successfully. Encroachment has been identified in **13,644 tanks, and 7,987 tanks (70%)** have already been cleared of encroachments.

Atal Bhujal Yojana

Under the Atal Bhujal Yojana, with an outlay of **Rs.1,034 crore,** the Department of Minor Irrigation, in collaboration with seven departments, has built **over 736 water conservation structures** across **14 districts, 41 taluks, and 1,199 Gram Panchayats** facing severe groundwater depletion.

Comparative analysis between the **five-year average** and the **current year's groundwater levels** shows improvement in **396 Gram Panchayats** under this project in 2024.

Water is Future - Water is the Life force of the World

In its **first phase,** the **Water is Future** program focuses on addressing the critical challenges of groundwater conservation and resource sustainability in **15 districts, 27 taluks, and 525 overexploited Gram Panchayats**. The initiative promotes **community-driven groundwater recharge and conservation,** building on the success of earlier water management models and sustainable practices.

A comprehensive framework is being developed to ensure long-term water security for the State. For FY **2025–26, projects worth Rs.200 crore** are being planned, modeled on **Maharashtra's Shirapur pattern** of groundwater development.

Shri N.S. Boseraju, Hon'ble Minister for Minor Irrigation, Science & Technology, inspecting the Checkdam with officers.

WATER IS FUTURE
WATER IS THE LIFE FORCE OF THE WORLD

"WATER IS FUTURE"

"Water is Future" is not just a slogan but it is a movement conserving Ground Water **prosperous, sustainable and resilient Karnataka.**

Lets join this movement.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Shri B.K. Pavithra
Secretary to Government
Dept. of Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development

Shri Prakash Srihari. B.
Chief Engineer (South Zone-Bengaluru)
Dept. of Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development

Shri H.L. Venkatesh
Chief Engineer (North Zone-Vijayapura)
Dept. of Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development

Shri B.K. Rajendra
Director
Directorate of Ground Water

M BG-BGE

Bhaskar Rao lauds lawyer, later apologises

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Bengaluru City Police Commissioner Bhaskar Rao, who has joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) after retirement, lauded advocate Rakesh Kishore who attempted to attack Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai.

After backlash

However, he later apologised for the same, following a backlash.

"Even if it is legally and terribly wrong, I admire your courage, at your age, to take a stand and live by it, irrespective of the consequences," he posted on X, responding to an X account that was impersonating the advocate.

This attracted much ire, especially given that Mr. Rao is a former law enforcement officer.

Mr. Rao later clarified that his reaction was one of aghast and shock that a person, despite being so highly educated, advanced in age and experienced, could attempt such an act knowing the consequences. "I have not insulted the Supreme Court, nor the Chief Justice or any community. If my tweet has angered or hurt, I am sorry," he wrote on Wednesday.

Kharge slams attempted attack on CJI, terms it 'blow to democratic values'

Congress president urges Centre to act firmly against the individual responsible, saying that insulting the CJI in the name of religion and ideology is an attack on the Constitution

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

All India Congress Committee chief Mallikarjun Kharge on Wednesday strongly condemned the attempted attack on Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai on Monday.

Mr. Kharge called the incident a "shameful insult" to the country's top judge and a blow to democratic values.

Speaking to reporters here, Mr. Kharge said he was deeply pained that the act had not drawn widespread condemnation across the nation.

"A person claiming to be a lawyer attempts to attack the CJI while invoking religion. I have sternly condemned it personally and also on behalf of the Congress," he said.

The Congress president urged the Centre to act firmly against the individual responsible.

The AICC chief also condemned the lynching of a man from the Valmiki community in Uttar Pradesh's Raebareli district and termed the incident a "collapse of law and order" under the State government.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge addressing a press conference in Bengaluru on Wednesday. PTI

KPCC president and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar called it a "display of *adharma*" in the court of law. Speaking to reporters at his Sadashivanagar residence, he said: "The Chief Justice of India has sought no action against the culprit, but a *suo motu* case must be registered and strong action must be taken."

Meanwhile, Ramesh Babu, MLC, has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking strict action against the attacker. He said that the attack "made in the name of Sanatana Dharma, is not merely a personal outburst but a direct affront to the independence of the judiciary, which forms the backbone of our constitutional democracy."

Mr. Babu urged for a judicial inquiry headed by a sitting or retired Supreme Court judge to investigate "the motives, links, and intent behind the attempted attack."

He further said: "Direct the Union Ministry of Home Affairs and the Delhi police to initiate immediate arrest and prosecution of the said advocate under relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita along with Contempt of Courts Act."

In Bengaluru, a group of ex-servicemen protested in front of the Karnataka High Court, condemning the attempted attack on the CJI.

FIR registered against advocate

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Vidhana Soudha police on Wednesday registered an FIR against Delhi-based advocate Rakesh Kishore for attempting to attack the Chief Justice of India. Based on a complaint by a city-based advocate, the police charged the accused under Section 132 (assaulting or using criminal force against a public servant to prevent them from performing their lawful duties) and other sections of the BNS.

Since the incident occurred in Delhi, the police registered the case as a Zero FIR and will transfer it to their Delhi counterparts.

Earlier, condemning the behaviour, a group of advocates staged a protest near the High Court before approaching the jurisdictional Vidhana Soudha police station.

Drama prevailed at the station when an ASI, who was in charge at the station, then refused to registered a case. After seven hours, the police finally registered the Zero FIR.

Internal quota: Govt. issues norms for fresh caste certificates

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a bid to remove confusion over the implementation of internal reservation among the 101 Scheduled Castes (SCs) in the State in public education and employment, the Karnataka government on Wednesday issued guidelines for issuing fresh caste certificates to enable them to get reservation benefits.

The circular assumes importance as the recruitment process, which had been frozen had restarted, but confusion on caste certificates had hindered it.

While the government modified the recommendations of the commission headed by retired judge H.N. Nagamohan Das to slice up the 17% reservation for SCs into three categories, the confusion over the status of Adi Andhras, Adi Karnatakas, and Adi Dravidas persisted.

The government provided 6% to Category A for Madigas and 16 related castes, 6% to Category B for Holeyas and 19 castes, and 5% for 63 castes in Category C.

The AA, AK, and AD category, with a population of about 4.7 lakh, which had been provided 1% reservation by the commission was to be equally split between Category A and Category B.

One-time choice

Significantly, the circular on Wednesday allowed the AA, AK, and AD population to have a one-time choice between Category A and Category B.

Despite providing option to enumerate themselves with their original castes, about 4.7 lakh identified themselves in these three colonial-era caste nomenclature. They have to provide an affidavit in this regard. Those who have AD, AK, and AA certificates but know their original castes should also apply with their original castes and category to secure the caste certificates.

Basavaraj Kowthal, convener of the Forum for Social Justice in Internal Reservation for Scheduled Castes, said that an estimated population of about 44 lakh have AD, AA, and AK certificates.

Where to apply

People belonging to 98 castes can spell out their castes and category to which these belong to and secure caste certificates at Atalji Kendras.

The certificates will be issued after verification under the Karnataka Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes (Reservation in recruitment and others) Act, 1990, amended in 2024 and 1992 rules.

Mr. Kowthal, who attended a meeting with officials on Tuesday, said that internal reservation in the election to local bodies would also be notified shortly along with apportionment of financial resources under SCSP/ TSP.

Rajya Sabha member taunts Siddaramaiah

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

BJP Rajya Sabha member Lahar Singh Siroya has taunted Chief Minister Siddaramaiah by saying that he cannot become another D. Devaraj Urs, the former Chief Minister known as champion of the Backward Classes, just by having a longer tenure.

In a release, Mr. Singh referred to the reports that Mr. Siddaramaiah was keen to have a longer tenure than Devaraj Urs by January, 2026. "I heard from my Congress friends that even if Mr. Siddaramaiah decides to vacate his chair to make way for transfer of power, he will not do so till January 2026. That is because he is apparently trying to overtake the record of Devraj Urs, who is till date the longest serving Chief Minister of Karnataka," he said.

"Devaraj Urs is the greatest hero of the OBCs in the State. He is almost like God to them. Politicians like Mr. Siddaramaiah could become Chief Ministers and leaders like Mallikarjun Kharge could enter politics and establish themselves only because of Devaraj Urs' commitment, vision, and large-heartedness."

Strict action against those killing wildlife: CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Following the death of two tigers and four tiger cubs owing to poisoning in M.M. Hills in Chamarajanagar district, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday cautioned that strict action will be taken against those who kill wildlife.

He emphasised that forests have no value without animal lives and that the survival of forests determines the survival of the planet.

Speaking after presenting the Chief Minister's medals to Forest and Environment Department personnel at the valedictory function of the 71st Wildlife Week celebrations, he said: "Forests and wildlife are inseparable, and those who destroy them will face the law without exception."

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre former cricketer Anil Kumble, and Meenakshi Negi, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, at the valedictory function of the 71st Wildlife Week celebrations in Bengaluru on Wednesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

The government would not tolerate incidents like poisoning tigers, he said.

Noting that Karnataka ranked first in elephant population and second in tiger population in the country, Mr. Siddaramaiah said there was a need to maintain harmony between animal and human life.

Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre appealed to forest staff to work with commitment to prevent the encroachment of forest land. At present, it is difficult to increase forest area and therefore the existing forests need to be protected, he said.

Mr. Khandre said that a megawatt captive solar power plant is being established at Bannerghatta Biological Park to meet the current and future energy needs of the park.

HDD shifted to ward

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda, who was admitted to Manipal Hospital on Old Airport Road here with an infection on Monday evening, has been shifted to a ward, said a hospital communique.

"His progress is being monitored by a team of medical experts," it said. The 92-year-old was admitted after developing a urinary tract infection.

Minister to give explanation on lake Bill to Raj Bhavan

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Minister for Minor Irrigation and Science and Technology N.S. Boseraju on Wednesday said that an explanation regarding the lakes' buffer zone amendment Bill will be submitted to the Governor shortly, following consultation with legal experts.

Clarification sought

The Minister stated that the Governor sought a clarification following a complaint lodged by a Bengaluru-based organisation, and the necessary details are being prepared.

Mr. Boseraju also affirmed that this amendment was based on a scientific study.

The amendment Bill was prepared following the decision of a committee chaired by the Chief Secretary and comprising secretaries from relevant departments.

This Bill was approved by both Houses of the legislature.

Neeriddare Nale scheme to be launched today

In the first phase, the *Neeriddare Nale* project will cover 525 groundwater-stressed gram panchayats, including over 100 GPs in Kalyana Karnataka, where groundwater depletion is the most severe. FILE PHOTO

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government will implement the *Neeriddare Nale* (water is future) initiative across 525 gram panchayats in 27 taluks of 15 districts, which have been identified as areas where the groundwater is exploited.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar will formally launch the programme on Thursday.

Minister for Minor Irrigation, Science and Technology N.S. Boseraju told reporters here that the initiative aimed to lay a strong foundation for a water-secure and prosperous Karnataka by improving groundwater levels.

The *Neeriddre Nale* concept seeks to create public awareness about water conservation, develop strategic plans for sustainable water management, and make citizens active partners in protecting water resources.

In the first phase, the project will cover 525 groundwater-stressed gram panchayats, including over 100 GPs in Kalyana Karnataka, where groundwater depletion is the most severe, Mr. Boseraju said.

Veteran RSS leader dead

K. Narahari. FILE PHOTO

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Veteran RSS leader and former MLC K. Narahari died in Bengaluru on Wednesday. He was 93.

A mechanical engineer by profession, Mr. Narahari served as lecturer in BMS College of Engineering for 24 years. He also served as MLC from Teachers constituency for 18 years.

A dyed-in-the-wool RSS member, Mr. Narahari caught the attention of senior leaders when he worked effectively in building RSS shakhas in Kodagu district in 1959 and 1960 as the Sangh Pracharak.

He went onto become kshetreeya karyavah (head of regional unit comprising three States) and also headed the sangh's national educational wing the Rashtriya Shaikshik Mahasangh. He had also served as president of the Mythic Society.

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Traffic (Com) Department, 2nd Floor, Shanthinagar TTMC, K.H. Road, Bengaluru-560027. Telephone No: 080-22537575
Website : **www.mybmtc.com** e-mail : **ctmc@mybmtc.com**
No.BMTC:CO:TR:COM:1823: 2940:2025-26 Dated:06.10.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION No: 27/2025-26
(e-Procurement Platform)

Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation invites bids from the interested Persons/Agency/company **on monthly license fee basis for General Stalls (built and Open space), Refreshment Room, Flat and Com/office spaces** through e-procurement platform.

Last date for submission of bids	**21.10.2025 up to 17:00 hrs.**
Date of Opening Financial bids	**23.10.2025 at 11:30 hrs.**

For further details on license fees, EMD, Area and other conditions log on to: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** & Contact no: 09240214000, 09240214001; 22371090; 22340060; 22340948 or 7760997519 & 7760991222 E-mail: **ctmc@mybmtc.com.**

Sd/- Chief Traffic Manager (Com) (Tender inviting Authority)

Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited
(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN: U04010KA2002SGC030438)

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP Portal)

BESCOM invites tender through KPP Portal as per following Details Enquiry No. BESCOM/2025-26/IND0172 (BESCOM/2025-26 BCP-1623) Name of the Tender: **Supply of Anchor Rod using 12 mm rounds/Guy Rod – GI.** Bid Documents available: **09.10.2025, 17:00 Hrs onwards.** Last date for Bid Submission: **24.10.2025, 17:15 Hrs.** Opening of Bid Document: **27.10.2025, 11:00 Hrs.** The Tender can be obtained through KPP portal website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Aspiring Bidders need to register on KPP portal. Further Bidders can take assistance with KPP portal help desk contact numbers 91-8046010000 91-8068948777 or email at **support@eprochelpdesk.com**

Sd/- Chief General Manager (Ele.), Procurement, BESCOM.

For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. CEE/OPR/KLB/SEE(O)/AEE-5/2025-26/8196 Date: 08.10.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL MODE ONLY)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited, Transmission (Operations) Zone, Kalaburagi, invites tenders from the eligible bidders for the following bid enquiry no.

Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/2025-26/SS/Replacement of **Nirna** Transformer

Particulars of work: Replacement of 2x10MVA 110/11kV Power Transformers by 2x20MVA, 110/11kV Power Transformers at 110/11kV Nirna sub-station in Humnabad Taluk, Bidar District on Partial Turnkey Basis, including Supply of all Materials/Equipments (Excluding supply 20MVA power transformer) and Erection (including dismantling) of all Materials/Equipments, Testing and Commissioning. **Amount put to tender: Rs. 47,84,246.00**

For more information log on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink 'E Procurement KPTCL' or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 10.10.2025.** Any other details can be had from the office of the undersigned.
Sd/- Chief Engineer (Elec)., Transmission (Operations) Zone, "Prasarana Bhavan", KPTCL, Sedam Road, Kalaburagi.

K-tech | **STARTUP KARNATAKA**

NAIN - NEW AGE INNOVATION NETWORK 2.0 (NAIN-2.0)
[Inviting applications from Professional Educational Institutions for setting up of NAIN-2.0]
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Under Karnataka Startup Policy 2022-27 of Department of Electronics, IT and Bt, Govt of Karnataka, it is proposed to invite application for setting up of NAIN- 2.0 from Engineering and Non Engineering Colleges from Tier-2 & Tier-3 cities across Karnataka State (Except Bangalore) (Including Degree Colleges, Medical, Dental and Pharmacy College)

The interested Educational Institutes are required to submit the online application from the below link: **https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe8DI1ZWMa7OPoh428UcTiOwIb12W6RwVKLL_FcUruMmFIeKQ/viewform**

Scan to Apply

The deadline for submission of application is **08/11/2025, 5:00 PM.**

Sd/-
Managing Director

KARNATAKA INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY (KITS)
Department of Electronics, IT & BT, Government of Karnataka
BKG Sapphire, # 59, 3rd Floor, Railway Parallel Road, Kumara Park West, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru-560020. Tel: 080-22231008
E-mail: aenain.kits@gmail.com

DIPR/CP/3139/AKAR/2025-26

Doctor suffers head injuries after attack by deceased girl's father

The Hindu Bureau
KOZHIKODE

A doctor working in a government hospital in Kozhikode district of Kerala suffered serious head injuries on Wednesday after he was attacked with a machete by the father of an eight-year-old girl who died of amoebic meningoencephalitis in August.

The attack took place at the Government Taluk Hospital in Thamarassery.

P.T. Vipin, the doctor, was attacked by K.V. Sunoop, the father of Anaya, who is among the victims of the deadly brain infection. Anaya had been initially admitted to the taluk hospital with fever, however her condition worsened, and she died while being shifted to the Government Medical College Hospital, Kozhikode.

Mr. Sunoop has been charged under Sections 118 (2) (voluntary causing grievous hurt by dangerous weapons) and 109(1) (attempt to murder) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. He was remanded in judicial custody. Dr. Vipin is now in the intensive care unit of a private hospital.

Statewide protest today

Seeking action to prevent such attacks, the Kerala Government Medical Officers' Association has called a Statewide protest on Thursday.

Health Minister Veena George said stern legal action would be taken against the accused.

Seven killed in explosion at firecracker unit in A.P.

A short circuit in the wiring system reportedly led to the accident; the wall of the building collapsed under the impact; three more workers with 90% burns are battling for their lives

T. Appala Naidu
AMALAPURAM

Home Minister V. Anitha inspecting the firecracker unit in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema district on Wednesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Seven persons, including three women workers and the proprietor, were killed in an explosion at a firecracker manufacturing unit at V. Savaram village in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema district of Andhra Pradesh on Wednesday. A short circuit in the electrical wiring system at the unit reportedly led to the accident.

The explosion was reported at Sri Ganapathi Fire Works, a firecracker manufacturing-cum-sales unit, around 12.30 p.m. The crackers stored at the unit caught fire and exploded. The wall of the unit collapsed under the impact of the explosion.

Home Minister V. Anitha, who inspected the unit, confirmed the death of seven persons present at the unit at the time of explosion.

"As per the preliminary reports, a short circuit in the wiring system is believed to be the cause of the explosion," she said.

The Home Minister said the firecracker unit had met all the safety criteria during a police inspection done recently.

"Ten workers were inside the unit when the explosion occurred. Three workers survived with 90% burns. Their health condition is critical," District Collector R. Mahesh Kumar told *The Hindu*.

All the victims belong to Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Konaseema district.

Governor S. Abdul Nazeer offered condolences to the bereaved families and asked the district administration to provide necessary treatment to the injured.

In a message on X, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said the deaths caused him immense grief.

Deputy Chief Minister K. Pawan Kalyan said the government would extend all possible help to the bereaved families.

ED summons Dulquer, gets details of SUVs

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) on Wednesday collected details from actor-producer Dulquer Salmaan in connection with the seizure of three high-end pre-owned SUVs by the Customs (Preventive) Commissionerate last month.

The actor appeared before the ED officials at the Kochi Zonal Office after his arrival from Chennai.

He is said to have been summoned regarding the transactions related to the vehicles seized from him. He had approached the High Court seeking the release of his vehicles.

On Tuesday, the court directed him to approach the adjudicating authority under the Customs Act to request the release of one of his high-end SUVs.

The ED conducted searches at 17 locations across Kerala and Tamil Nadu from Tuesday morning, as part of the ongoing probe into the alleged smuggling of high-end pre-owned luxury vehicles and related unauthorised foreign exchange transactions.

Searches were also held at residences and establishments of actors Prithviraj and Amith Chakkalackal. "The searches were based on inputs exposing a syndicate engaged in the illegal import and registration of luxury cars such as Land Cruiser, Defender, and Maserati through Indo-Bhutan/Nepal routes," stated a release issued by the ED on Wednesday.

Preliminary findings reveal that a Coimbatore-based network, using forged documents claiming to be from the Indian Army, U.S. Embassy, and Ministry of External Affairs, made fraudulent RTO (Regional Transport Office) registrations in Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, and other States. The vehicles were later sold to high net worth individuals, including film personalities, at undervalued prices, the release added.

Tension at university in Hyderabad over Palestine solidarity rally

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Tension prevailed at the English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU) campus in Hyderabad on Tuesday following a confrontation between two student groups over a rally held in solidarity with Palestine.

According to officials, around 6.15 p.m. on Wednesday, a group of nearly 100 students led by student organisation representatives conducted a rally inside the campus without securing prior permission from university authorities.

The students raised slogans in support of Palestine and against Israel, displayed Palestinian flags and posters, and pasted them on the canteen walls with the words 'EFLU for Palestine'.

Soon after this, another group of around 30 students, belonging to a different student organisation, objected to the posters and attempted to remove them.

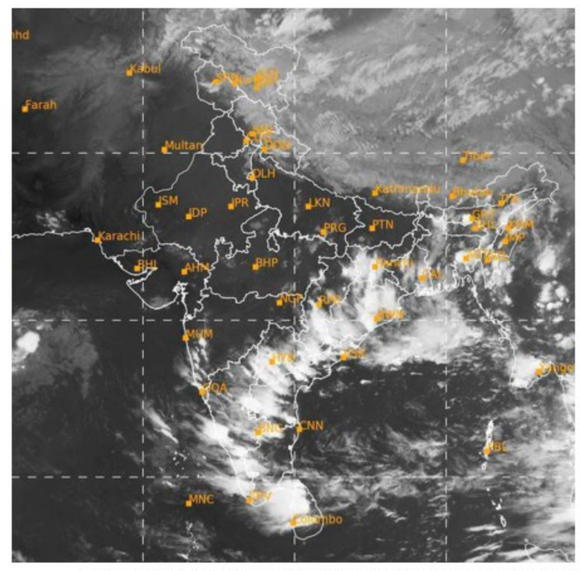
This led to heated arguments and a scuffle between the two groups, with sloganeering by both sides.

The situation turned tense briefly until the police arrived and brought the matter under control. Based on a complaint from the EFLU registrar, the Osmania University police registered a case against both the groups.

Further investigation is currently under way.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.15 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Kerala. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over Telangana, Konkan & Goa, Karaikal, Mahe and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	4	29.5	24.7	Kozhikode	—	33.4	25.5
Ahmedabad	—	33.5	24.0	Kurnool	—	32.5	25.6
Aizawl	5	31.6	20.6	Lucknow	—	31.8	23.8
Allahabad	—	34.4	22.8	Madurai	—	34.0	26.0
Bengaluru	—	28.7	21.6	Mangaluru	—	31.1	23.4
Bhopal	—	30.7	20.0	Mumbai	—	32.2	23.8
Bhubaneswar	—	31.0	24.0	Mysuru	—	32.0	20.0
Chandigarh	37.2	30.0	17.2	New Delhi	15	26.5	20.3
Chennai	—	33.9	26.7	Patna	—	32.6	26.1
Coimbatore	—	34.9	23.4	Port Blair	2	29.5	24.2
Dehradun	9	25.5	17.4	Puducherry	—	32.8	26.1
Gangtok	—	23.2	16.4	Pune	—	34.2	21.8
Goa	—	31.7	24.8	Raipur	—	32.2	24.2
Guwahati	—	33.3	24.5	Ranchi	10	29.9	21.4
Hubballi	—	31.0	22.0	Shillong	13.6	21.2	15.4
Hyderabad	3	31.8	22.0	Shimla	36	17.4	10.8
Imphal	—	30.6	18.1	Srinagar	—	19.4	7.8
Jaipur	0.6	28.6	20.8	Thiruvananthapuram	—	34.0	25.0
Kochi	—	30.6	24.8	Tiruchi	14	31.5	26.4
Kohima	2	20.6	17.9	Vijayawada	—	34.4	25.6
Kolkata	—	32.4	26.0	Visakhapatnam	—	32.0	25.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.12	.22	16	61	124	
Bengaluru	.12	.11	62	129	143	
Chennai	.15	.13	31	52	76	
Delhi	.50	.30	56	111	96	
Hyderabad	.4	.14	11	151	111	
Kolkata	.8	.47	29	52	125	
Lucknow	.7	.48	59	130	119	
Mumbai	.4	.37	30	55	119	
Pune	.—	.47	40	49	80	
Visakhapatnam	.15	.60	24	83	125	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Bhilwara, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 307 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 10

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

INBRIEF

CBI books 'PMO official' who tried to get tickets to Tirumala

The CBI has registered a first information report (FIR) against a man who tried to get the coveted 'Suprabhatam' darshan tickets at the Sri Venkateswara temple in Tirumala by claiming to be an official at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). Identifying himself as Dr. P. Rama Rao from the PMO, he wrote to the the then TTD Executive Officer, J. Syamala Rao, on May 1, seeking the tickets. The TTD then contacted the PMO, only to be told that there was no official by that name there. PMO authorities then lodged a complaint with the CBI, which booked Rama Rao on charges of cheating and impersonation.

TVK moves SC seeking independent probe

The TVK, led by actor Vijay, has moved the Supreme Court seeking an independent probe led by a former Supreme Court judge into the September 27 stampede at a rally in Karur that claimed 41 lives.

The petition challenges the Madras High Court's October 3 order constituting a Special Investigation Team (SIT) led by Inspector-General of Police Asra Garg to probe the tragedy.

Filed through TVK secretary Aadhav Arjuna, the petition was mentioned before Chief Justice of India (CJI) B.R. Gavai for urgent listing.

ED begins probe into loan scam involving Kerala ex-MLA

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has started a probe into a financial fraud case involving former Nilambur MLA P.V. Anvar, his driver and three managers of the Kerala Financial Corporation. The ED is probing the case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act 2002. The ED case follows an ongoing Vigilance inquiry against Mr. Anvar and others into an alleged loan scam that caused a loss of ₹22.30 crore to the corporation. Murugesh Narendran, the complainant, testified before the ED in Kochi on Tuesday.

Earthen glow

Clay craft: With Deepavali round the corner, a potter making clay lamps at Nagaram, Hyderabad, on Wednesday. G. RAMAKRISHNA

7 prison officials booked in birthday party case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Seven prison officials were charged with dereliction of duty following an investigation of a video in which a rowdy-sheeter was seen celebrating his birthday at the Bengaluru Central Prison went viral on social media on October 5.

The probe, conducted by K.C. Divyashree, Deputy Inspector-General of Prisons, found that the birthday party was celebrated on September 5 at Cell No. 7 of the 6th barrack, where rowdy-sheeter Srinivas alias Gubbacchi Seena was found cutting cakes with a knife while wearing a garland made of apples amidst cheers from his associates.

The entire act was recorded on mobile phone and uploaded on social media, where it went viral.

Authorities recommended disciplinary action and suspension of prison officials.

Based on the report, the officials wrote to the authorities to suspend the head warden and his assistant, assistant superintendent, two jailers and two assistant jailers who were incharge of the security of the prison.

A complaint has been filed with the jurisdictional Parappana Agarahara police station seeking detailed probe on how the accused used the phones inside the prison and its source, since when it is being used, despite 5G high-tech jammers in place and regular checks.

Kerala court acquits 16 in double murder case

The Hindu Bureau
KANNUR

The Thalassery Additional Sessions Court on Wednesday acquitted all 16 CPI(M) workers accused in the New Mahe double murder case related to the killing of RSS activist Vijith, 28, and Shinoj, 30, at Pallur.

Two of the accused died during the trial, while the remaining 14 were found not guilty as the prosecution failed to prove the charges.

The murders took place on May 28, 2010. Vijith and Shinoj were hacked to death after a bomb was hurled to create panic near Poosarikovil in New Mahe.

The victims were returning after appearing before the Mahe court in connection with a case related to the attempted murder of a CPI(M) worker at Pallur.

Among the acquitted are N.K. Sunil Kumar, alias Kodi Suni, K.K. Muhammed Shafi, K. Shinoj, who all are already serving prison terms in the T.P. Chandrasekharan murder case.

Besides them, T. Sujith, T.K. Sumesh, T.P. Shameel, A.K. Shammas, K.K. Abbas, Rahul, K.V. Vineesh, P.V. Vijith, , Faisal, Sarish and T.P Sajeer were also acquitted in the case.

The trial that began in January 21 was completed on August 19. The prosecution examined 44 witnesses and produced 63 exhibits and 140 documents.

Cong., BJP seek Vasavan and Prasanth's resignation over Sabarimala temple row

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) protests, demanding the resignations of Devaswom Minister V. N. Vasavan and Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) president P. S. Prasanth, accusing them of official connivance in the alleged misappropriation of gold-plated copper engravings covering the stone carvings and sculptures at the Sabarimala Ayyappa temple, roiled Kerala for the second consecutive day on Wednesday.

Police blocking the Congress workers march to the Collectorate in Kannur over 'Sabarimala temple theft' row. S.K. MOHAN

Scores of BJP workers marched to Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's official residence at the Cliff House in Thiruvananthapuram, demanding a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) enquiry into the alleged sale of the religious artefacts to wealthy collectors for private worship.

BJP State president Rajeev Chandrasekhar said the party had three demands. "The BJP requires the resignation of Mr. Vasavan and Mr. Prasanth. It wants the government to order a CBI enquiry, given the inter-State ramifications of the case and public mistrust in Mr. Vijayan's police. The TDB should release internal audit records, including an inventory of donations received at the temple from lakhs of devotees, since 1999," he added.

At Pathanamthitta, BJP Yuva Morcha workers staged a protest in front of the local TDB office.

The Congress disruption of the Assembly over "Sabarimala temple theft" spilt onto the street at Mavelikara in Alappuzha and Kannur. Youth Congress workers wearing black shirts scaled the perimeter wall of the Kannur District Collector's office to register their protest. The police arrested and removed them from the spot later.

Vote of confidence

Bihar election will be a test case for the neutrality and the efficiency of the ECI

Bihar will vote in two phases, on November 6 and 11, to elect a new Assembly, with counting on November 14. The Bihar Assembly election of 2025 is important not only for political reasons but also for the reasons of electoral integrity in India, which is facing a crisis. The Election Commission of India (ECI) is cognisant of the high stakes in Bihar, and for good measure, the Chief Election Commissioner, Gyanesh Kumar, described it as the 'mother of all elections'. The ECI also listed 17 measures, beginning with Bihar, that could improve voter participation and public trust in the process. The average number of eligible voters in a polling station will be 819, and the highest number of voters in a booth will now be 1,200 compared to 1,500 earlier. The ECI has also taken into account concerns raised by political parties and other observers about the electoral process. Counting of postal ballots will be complete before the last two rounds of Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) and Voter-Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) counting. If there is a mismatch between the Form 17C and EVM data, and wherever mock poll data had not been erased, the counting of VVPAT slips will be mandatory. Among other measures are mobile phone deposit facilities at polling stations, and a one-stop digital platform named ECINet, for real-time voter turnout updates. Surprising turns in turnout data have been a matter of serious concern in recent elections, and this measure could help clear the air. Live feed from all booths will be available for monitoring purposes.

The Bihar election has gained a special national significance this time, with the ECI's abrupt announcement of a Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls which began in June. The ECI sees the process as a "purification" of electoral rolls, with plans to have it across the country. In Bihar's final list, roughly 69 lakh names were removed for reasons such as deaths, unproven citizenship, duplicate entries, or permanent migration to other States. Bihar will be critical for the BJP, the Congress, the RJD and the JD(U), with each party hoping to turn a corner in their journeys. The ruling National Democratic Alliance is at the crossroads with an aging Chief Minister Nitish Kumar who is completing nearly 20 years in office. The BJP may want to formally take over the alliance's reins but it will have to gauge how this might impact the social dynamics. For the Congress, Bihar will be a test case of its key planks – electoral integrity and social justice. All said, this is one election in which the ECI has the highest stakes, and all those invested in Indian democracy hope to see it come out with flying colours.

Infinite boxes

The Chemistry Nobel laureates established a new grammar of matter

It would not be an overstatement to say that metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) have redefined what materials can do for society. These porous crystalline structures are built from metal ions coordinated to organic linker molecules and offer gigantic amounts of internal surface area. Their cavities can be tuned to trap greenhouse gases, harvest drinking water from air, and store hydrogen or methane as clean fuels. As industries confront climate change and scarce resources, MOFs exemplify chemistry's power to reimagine sustainability, atom by atom. The roots of this year's Chemistry Nobel Prize, awarded to the developers of MOFs, go back to the 1980s, when Richard Robson, then at the University of Melbourne, wondered whether molecular architectures could be designed rather than found. Inspired by a ball-and-stick model used for teaching, he combined copper ions with an organic molecule whose four ends bore nitrile groups. Contrary to expectations, the ingredients self-assembled into an ordered, diamond-like crystal loaded with empty cavities. Susumu Kitagawa, working in Japan, picked up on the same spirit and made a breakthrough in 1997 when he built a 3D framework of cobalt, nickel or zinc ions linked by bipyridine molecules. When drained of water, the framework remained intact, allowing the gaps between its atoms to hold and release gases as required. In 1998, he also proposed that MOFs could be made of soft solids that 'breathed' as other molecules moved in and out.

Meanwhile in the U.S., Omar Yaghi was dissatisfied with the trial-and-error of conventional reactions and pioneered reticular chemistry, with which he assembled predetermined building blocks into ordered networks. His first frameworks, reported in 1995, were robust two-dimensional nets. By 1999 he unveiled MOF-5, a zinc-based cubic lattice with extraordinary stability and surface area. A few grams contained the internal area of an entire football field. His approach allowed entire families of related MOFs to be designed systematically. Thus, Robson, Kitagawa and Yaghi established a new grammar of matter that allowed others to create thousands of MOFs, some of which moved from prototypes to industrial reactors and semiconductor manufacturing lines. The road ahead is even more promising but also exacting. Researchers are still working to make MOFs more durable in real-world conditions and cheaper to produce at scale. Integrating them into batteries and catalytic filters, for instance, requires engineering as finely tuned as their chemistry. For all these achievements, however, the vision honoured this year transcends any single material. By showing that chemistry can design empty space as precisely as solid matter, the laureates built room not only for molecules but for imagination itself.

The danger of an unchecked pre-crime framework

Faisal C.K

is Deputy Law Secretary to the Government of Kerala

Articles 22(3) - (7), which constitutionalised preventive detention, are the Bermuda Triangle in India's constitutional Atlantic where fundamental rights such as liberty, equality and due process vanish without a trace.

In June this year, while setting aside a preventive detention order under the Kerala Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act, 2007 (KAAPA) in *Dhanya M. vs State of Kerala* (2025 INSC 809), the Supreme Court of India underscored that the extraordinary power of preventive detention must be exercised sparingly and strictly in accordance with constitutional safeguards. Reaffirming the principle that individual liberty cannot be curtailed lightly, the Court highlighted the vital distinction between "public order" and "law and order" and clarified that preventive detention cannot be used as a substitute for criminal prosecution or as a means to circumvent bail orders.

Similarly, in *S.K. Nazneen vs State of Telangana* (2023), the Court held that preventive detention was not justified when the case pertained to a mere law and order issue rather than a public order concern.

However, such judicial assertions appear increasingly inconsistent with the operation of laws such as KAAPA, which envelop the entire Milky Way of "law and order" rather than confining themselves to the solar system of "public order", due to their broad definitions of "goonda" and "rowdy".

The judgment in *Dhanya M.* referenced *Rekha vs State of Tamil Nadu*, where the Court held that the power of preventive detention is an exception to Article 21 and must be treated as such – an exceptional measure to be employed only in rare circumstances. Likewise, in *Banka Sneha Sheela vs State of Telangana* (2021), the Court reiterated that any action involving preventive detention must be tested against the standards of Article 21. These rulings offer a faint glimmer of light at the end of a tunnel, yet executive overreach continues unchecked in the domain of preventive detention.

A constitutional abyss

Preventive detention in India has a long lineage, dating back to the Bengal Regulations of 1818, devised by the British to maintain colonial control. The Government of India Act, 1935, empowered provincial legislatures to enact preventive detention laws in the interest of "public order". Although Britain employed such measures only during wartime, independent India inherited and retained this colonial relic with astonishing zeal.

In *The Indian Constitution: A Conversation with Power*, Gautam Bhatia says: "Occupying an ambiguous zone between the (formally) extraordinary and the (practically) ordinary, preventive detention was thoroughly embedded into the Indian legal landscape at the time of Independence: so much so that, facing a situation of communal tensions, communist uprisings, and the Partition, it turned into a public order tool under the newly independent federal and provincial governments."

The preventive detention regime needs reform; it should not be used as a routine administrative tool

Preventive detention was fiercely debated in the Constituent Assembly. The prevailing communal unrest lent it some legitimacy. Gautam Bhatia astutely observes that "Article 22 was framed as a Janus-faced provision – incorporating elements of due process, and then excluding them from the scope of preventive detention laws."

The case of *A.K. Gopalan vs State of Madras* (1950) became a litmus test for the nascent republic's commitment to the constitutional citizen's right to life and liberty. Gopalan, a communist leader, was detained under a colonial law, later revalidated by the Preventive Detention Act, 1950. He challenged his detention under Article 21, citing the absence of "procedure established by law", and under Article 19, alleging a violation of his freedoms of movement and speech. The Court, however, rejected his claims, holding that preventive detention could only be tested on the basis of Articles 22(3)-(7).

Thus, Article 22 became an "authoritarian penal colony" or a "Devil's Island" in India's constitutional geography – isolated from the ocean of fundamental rights. Parliament was empowered to enact laws that could even dispense with the advisory board review required under Article 22(4), by merely invoking special "circumstances" or "classes of persons". Somnath Lahiri rightly warned that such provisions rendered the Indian Constitution a "Police-Constable Constitution."

When the golden triangle eclipses

Subsequent judgments fortified this constitutional Devil's Island. The top court ruled that even when the grounds of detention directly implicated a fundamental right, it was sufficient for authorities to comply with the procedures in Article 22 – there was no requirement to meet the substantive restrictions applicable to fundamental rights. This position endured despite the Court's revolutionary judgment in *Maneka Gandhi vs Union of India* (1978), which held that "procedure established by law" must mean fair, just and reasonable due process, and that fundamental rights must be read as a unified whole.

Yet, in *A.K. Roy vs Union of India* (1982), the Court fell back on pre-*Maneka* reasoning to assert that preventive detention laws could not be challenged for violating Articles 14, 19, or even the enriched interpretation of Article 21. The Court also refused to subject such laws to the doctrine of proportionality, which had become a central tenet of constitutional review elsewhere in the rights framework. Thus, a person ensnared in this Bermuda Triangle of Article 22 is effectively cut off from the Golden Triangle of Articles 14, 19, and 21, and is plunged into legal darkness.

Granville Austin, in *Working a Democratic Constitution: A History of the Indian Experience* (1999), prophetically observed: "Preventive detention had had seductive charms for the executive branch, as the former Chief Justices' letter [to the President and Prime Minister in 1966] had pointed out. Although perhaps a 'necessary evil' in some situations – such as witness intimidation – it easily became a crutch whose overuse produced not only injustice to individuals but also atrophy in police investigatory and prosecutorial skills. These hazards would only intensify over time."

Dilemma of the pre-crime

Steven Spielberg's *Minority Report* (2002) – based on Philip K. Dick's 1956 short story – powerfully dramatises the jurisprudential dilemmas of preventive detention, particularly in liberal democracies. In the film, a special police unit called PreCrime uses precognitive humans (Precogs) and advanced technology to prevent murders before they occur. The protagonist is apprehended for a murder he has not yet committed. He is presumed guilty, denied a fair trial, and offered no opportunity to be heard.

This mirrors the legal logic of preventive detention, which bypasses fundamental principles such as *audi alteram partem*, the presumption of innocence and judicial scrutiny. Although science fiction, the film offers a striking metaphor for the ethical and legal perils that accompany the logic of preventive incarceration.

In the film, alternative futures – or "minority reports" – reveal that the Precogs are not infallible. This echoes the inherent uncertainty in predicting human behaviour, which is the Achilles' heel of preventive detention regimes. In India, courts have repeatedly acknowledged that the "subjective satisfaction" of the detaining authority is susceptible to misuse, especially in cases that involve dissent, protest or political opposition.

In this metaphorical ecosystem, the sponsoring authority, detaining authority, and even the advisory board function as India's equivalent of the Precogs – issuing decisions based on perceptions and probabilities rather than proof and procedure. With weak procedural safeguards and limited judicial review, preventive detention in India presents the very dangers that Minority Report sought to warn us against.

In light of the top court's recent observations in *Dhanya M.*, there is an urgent need to re-examine the constitutional propriety of *A.K. Gopalan* and *A.K. Roy*, and to reform the preventive detention regime. At the very least, such extraordinary powers should be confined strictly to combating grave threats such as terrorism and transnational drug cartels, and not used as a routine administrative tool. Unless checked, India's pre-crime framework will continue to undermine the very constitutional values that it purports to protect.

The views expressed are personal

An anchor for India-U.K. ties, economic partnership

Harsha Vardhan Agarwal

is President, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

Relations between India and the United Kingdom witnessed a major step-up with the signing of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) in July 2025. The meeting of the Indian and U.K. Prime Ministers this week in Mumbai signals a deep commitment on both sides to scale up bilateral relations and become true partners in progress.

The visit of the British Prime Minister Keir Starmer will anchor India-U.K. ties in a period marked by shifting trade regimes, geopolitical realignments and intensifying competition for technology, capital and talent.

While awaiting ratification, CETA is already being positioned as a strategic foundation for the bilateral relationship, promising to expand trade, investment and cooperation across a spectrum of sectors. The significance of Mr. Starmer's visit lies in consolidating these commitments and in situating the partnership within a rapidly changing global economic landscape.

The backdrop to this visit is India's expanding web of economic partnerships. On October 1, India's Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) came into effect. This is India's first agreement where market access is explicitly tied to investment commitments, with EFTA countries pledging $100 billion of investment over 15 years. Parallelly, negotiations with the European Union, India's second largest trading partner in goods, with bilateral trade of $136.5 billion in 2024-25, are advancing well.

Building on CETA

At the heart of the October discussions will be the CETA. It is expected to double bilateral commerce by 2030. For India, the pact promises lower tariffs on its exports – from textiles and agricultural goods to pharmaceuticals – while the U.K. secures reduced duties on Scotch whisky, automobiles and other high-value exports. More importantly, the agreement signals a willingness on both sides to blend market access with broader strategic alignment.

The British Prime Minister's India visit will strengthen ties with India across a spectrum of sectors

Complementing the CETA is the Double Contributions Convention (DCC), which exempts employers of Indian professionals in the U.K. from double social security contributions for up to three years. This will ease mobility for skilled workers and reduce costs for businesses, particularly in services sectors where Indian professionals have played a transformative role.

The ongoing negotiations of a bilateral investment treaty between India and the U.K., alongside the CETA, promise to boost the U.K.'s investments in India. The U.K. is the sixth largest investor, accounting for nearly 5% of India's foreign direct investment, and these inflows have a potential to increase across sectors, in manufacturing and services. Tariff elimination on a large number of products, regulatory cooperation, and talent mobility provisions will make cross-border operations even more competitive and efficient for British companies and U.K. companies can leverage India as a hub for production and global exports. Indian firms stand to gain through technology partnerships, adoption of global standards and easier access to European markets.

Beyond commerce, strategic road maps

Mr. Starmer's visit will also provide an opportunity to review progress under the Vision 2035 road map for India-U.K. relations. This framework envisages deeper cooperation in defence, technology, climate action, education and mobility. The Defence Industrial Road map, unveiled in July, is expected to feature prominently, with an emphasis on joint development and co-production of advanced platforms.

Equally significant is the Technology Security Initiative (TSI) launched in 2024, which brings together the National Security Advisers of the two countries to drive collaboration in sensitive technologies – artificial intelligence, quantum computing, semiconductors, critical minerals, and advanced materials. This reflects the growing recognition that economic and security domains are now inseparable.

Cooperation in challenging times

The true salience of Mr. Starmer's visit lies in timing and trajectory. The world economy is fragmenting into regional trading blocs even as global value chains are being restructured around resilience and security. The CETA provides an opportunity for both sides to enhance their economic cooperation and contribute to economic growth.

For Britain, India offers access to a vast and growing market, opportunities for collaboration in green finance and digital innovation, and a geopolitical partner in the Indo-Pacific. For India, the U.K. relationship provides advanced technology, investment flows, defence partnerships and expanded opportunities for its services and skilled workforce.

It is time to set contours of a next-generation India-U.K. partnership: one that combines trade liberalisation with joint investments in sustainability; tariff reductions with mobility frameworks for talent; and defence procurement with co-development of critical technologies.

For Indian industry, this is an opportunity to highlight sectors where synergies can be rapidly scaled – renewables, electric mobility, digital finance, aerospace and higher education. For policymakers, it is a moment to align regulatory frameworks, reduce barriers, and ensure that CETA's benefits are widely realised.

Ultimately, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mr. Starmer will be looking to send a signal that transcends the bilateral. By deepening their partnership, India and the U.K. can position themselves not only as trusted economic partners but also as co-architects of a more resilient, open, and technology-driven global order.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Revisiting non-violence

October 2, celebrated as Gandhi Jayanti, reminds us of Mahatma Gandhi's enduring principles of truth and non-violence. Yet, just days later, October 7 marked two years of the Israel-Gaza war — a conflict that reflects how distant the world remains from those ideals. With over 67,000 lives lost in Gaza and Israel's military actions extending to neighbouring countries, its goals of disbanding Hamas and rescuing hostages remain unmet. In attempting to destroy Gaza, Israel has lost much of its global support, while the vision of a secure West Asia, once strengthened through groupings such as I2U2 and the IMEEC corridor, now seems far from reality. This situation underscores the relevance of Gandhi's message. War can never be a conclusive solution to moral or political disputes. It is only a contest of destruction watched by a weary global audience. Choosing war over peace and outrage over Satyagraha will never be a sane or sustainable choice.

Suchhanda Banerjee,
Chanddanagar, West Bengal

U.K.-India ties

The visit of the British Prime Minister, Keir Starmer, to India has been described as the dawn of a new era in bilateral relations. Trade, technology and defence cooperation are on the table. Yet, the shadow of history still looms large. Can two nations once bound by colonial chains truly build a partnership of equals? As Britain seeks allies beyond Europe, will it see India as a partner of strength or only as a market of convenience?

Hasnain Rabbani,
Mumbai

A verdict that misses the fine print

Kalaiselvan Periyasamy
Environmental and social expert

In a ruling that has shaken India's infrastructure and environmental governance, the Supreme Court on May 16 declared post-facto or retrospective environmental clearances illegal. The unambiguous message was that if a project was built without prior environmental clearance (EC), it cannot later be legalised.

Though well intentioned, the verdict has left behind a trail of confusion across States. Will existing buildings, factories and public infrastructure without prior EC be demolished? Will mass demolitions become the new rule of law? For governments, regulators, and citizens, the judgment has frozen decision-making.

To be clear, the attempt here is not to criticise or fault the judge, judgment, judiciary, or the justice delivery system, but to put in perspective the impact of the Supreme Court's order.

A decade in the making

The legal roots of this debate stretch back to October 2013, when the Southern Bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in *S.P. Muthuraman v. Union of India* stayed the Office Memorandum by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change allowing "prospective clearances" for projects that had already started work without prior EC. In *Vanashakti v. Union of India* (2025) and related cases, the Court has upheld that position, closing the chapter on retrospective environmental approvals.

While the legal reasoning is consistent, the timeline is troubling. Over the past 12 years, India's infrastructure and real estate sectors have evolved rapidly. Governments, industries, and citizens have invested heavily in projects that assumed that post-facto approvals could be regularised. The 12-year gap between the NGT's stance and the apex court's confirmation has created a legal vacuum and uncertainty.

Though well-intentioned, the Supreme Court verdict declaring post-facto or retrospective environmental clearances illegal has left behind a trail of confusion across States

Where does the verdict fall short? While it bans post-facto environmental clearances, the verdict offers no guidance on what happens next. As the States have been left to interpret the judgment independently, some of them have already begun action towards demolition drives targeting public infrastructure, residential complexes, schools, colleges, and industrial units.

Ironically, environmental experts warn that these mass demolitions could end up harming the environment rather than helping it. Razing thousands of structures would generate enormous debris, release significant emmissions, and displace communities. This would defeat the very purpose of environmental protection.

The verdict also treats all violations alike, ignoring intent, scale and impact. It overlooks the principle of sustainable development under Article 21 of the Constitution.

Also, instead of fostering accountability, fear of demolition may push more projects underground, making monitoring and compliance even harder.

The Court's order pertains to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, but is silent on the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011 – a separate framework under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. This silence has created legal ambiguity for thousands of coastal projects, from ports to tourism ventures. Assuming that the Court's order automatically covers CRZ cases is untenable; both regimes differ and require stakeholder consultation. A one-size-fits-all approach will deepen the chaos.

India's environmental governance also rests on the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. These Acts underpin the environmental clearance process itself. If the Court's order is extended to these laws, all enterprises operating without prior consent from State Pollution Control Boards could face closure. The economic and social fallout of such an interpretation would be immense.

Most projects without prior ECs were not born of deliberate violation but due to procedural delays, ignorance, or regulatory confusions. Over 12 years, varying interpretations and interim permissions blurred the line between compliance and breach. Demolition may satisfy legal formalities, but won't serve environmental justice. The law must protect nature without destroying livelihoods and evolve with time.

A balanced way forward

Experts suggest a hybrid compliance model that upholds the Court's intent while preventing socio-economic disaster. The model bars regularisation in eco-sensitive zones, mandates environmental assessments for existing projects, imposes fines and restoration duties, ensures independent monitoring, and sets time-bound compliance windows. The model doesn't pardon violators; it makes them pay, restore, and comply, shifting the focus from punishment to prevention and reform.

The Court has now agreed to review its verdict following petitions by the Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India and others. This review is not about weakening the judgment but about addressing its unexplored dimensions. India's environmental regulation needs evolution, not upheaval. Instead of wielding the wrecking ball, policymakers should build a smarter compliance system by promoting self-reporting, strict penalties, transparent monitoring, and stronger governance. Environmental protection and economic growth must coexist through intelligent, science-based policy.

Names that speak volumes

Titles not only boost the profile of Dravidian leaders but are also a nod to culture

STATE OF PLAY

M. Kalyanaraman
kalyanaraman.m@thehindu.co.in

When it was in a nascent stage, the Dravidian movement was sure-footed. Its luminaries were full of fire and determined to upend the caste status quo.

Nearly every one of them came from humble backgrounds, says R. Kannan, biographer of C.N. Annadurai and M.G. Ramachandran (MGR). Barring a few, most of the leaders they took on in the Congress came from wealth and high status, he points out.

Therefore, these early leaders needed to amp up their profiles even if that meant resorting to exaggeration. Some changed their rather prosaic names to more exotic ones. By becoming Nedunchezhiyan, Narayanaswamy, who held an MA in Tamil literature, sought to do away with a Sanskrit name and acquired the aura of Sangam-era royalty – the original Nedunchezhiyan was a king of ancient history.

Besides new names, leaders of the Dravidian movement took on titles as well. For the putative No. 2 in the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), K. Anbazhagan, the title Perasiriyar, which means professor or more literally grand teacher, added gravitas even though he was not quite a full professor in academia; he was a lecturer in a Chennai college. E.V. Ramaswamy was Periyar – the respected figure who shaped the movement.

Some titles were literary and sounded sweet. Periyar's nephew, E.V.K. Sampath, was Sollin Selvan (the one with a wealth of words). Karunanidhi was Kalaignar (artiste).

Vaiko was sometimes Kaz-

hagathin Por Vaal – the battle sword of the organisation – although the DMK, at its best, has been reformist and sometimes adversarial with the Centre for ideological reasons, but has rarely gone to battle.

MGR was Makkal Thilagam (darling of the masses). He was praised as Puratchi Nadigar (revolutionary actor) after he played a Robin Hood-type brigand in the film, Malaikallan. Later, when the Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam was launched, his lieutenant K. A. Krishnaswamy tweaked it to Puratchi Thalaivar (revolutionary leader). MGR's successor, Jayalalithaa, took on the feminine form of the title and became Puratchi Thalaivi.

MGR's followers would cite several "revolutionary" policy measures such as the school feeding programme that boosted enrolment and retention rates. By introducing quotas for women in local bodies and increasing it to 50% later, Jayalalithaa has changed the gender profile of grassroots politics which may well ascend to state-level positions.

But independent scholars look at the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) as the more conservative version of Dravidianism. The two revolutionary leaders steered away from any movement-based strategies and were not insurrectionist.

When Edappadi Palaniswamy (EPS) became Chief Minister as a compromise candidate who could balance the competing interests within the AIADMK after the revolt by O. Panneerselvam, he decided to follow the Dravidian tradition of taking on a title. EPS was claiming the mantle of Jayalalithaa, a leader who towered over everyone else in the party and still does. He became Puratchi Tamizhan (Tamil everyman). By the time of EPS, however, taking on titles became a ritual. And Puratchi Tamizhan hasn't quite stuck.

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin's son and successor – Deputy Chief Minister Udayanidhi – took on many titles. He was Makkal Anban (people's friend) for some time and became Engalin Ethirkalam (our future) briefly when his succession wasn't formal yet. Neither has endured.

Titles not only boosted the profile of Dravidian leaders of the past but were also a nod to the ancient culture of Tamils in which calling someone by name is disrespectful. On the other hand, communists – both leaders and cadre – called one another comrade to erase hierarchy. But they maintained respect through the use of initials such as AB and PR. Today, Tamils may well use a simple, respectful suffix to a leader's name although the language doesn't quite have the equivalent of the Hindi suffix, ji.

A frequent title is Thalapathy (commander). Mr. Stalin was commander for a long time before he became Thalaivar (leader) after his father's death. The new star in the Tamil political horizon, Vijay, also carries the title Thalapathy. He has created a buzz, especially among the youth who have no memory of MGR and only faintly recall Jayalalithaa. The latest commander claims that the real fight in 2026 is between him and the DMK.

Manipur data mask scale of crimes against women in 2023

Data show a spike in criminal activity in the State in 2023, but a drop in reported crimes against women during the conflict

DATA POINT

Nitika Francis

During the peak of the ethnic conflict in Manipur in 2023, buildings were torched, riots were widespread, and crimes such as burglaries, robberies, murders, and attempted killings surged.

Alongside reports of this violence, there were also numerous documented cases of women being raped, tortured, harassed, and even killed. The Supreme Court took cognisance of the situation, observing in July 2023 that a "systemic" and "unprecedented magnitude" of sexual violence had been committed against women in Manipur amid the ethnic clashes.

The conflict between the Imphal Valley-based Meitei community and the hill-dwelling Kuki tribe broke out in May 2023 and continues till this day. The clashes have claimed hundreds of lives and displaced nearly 70,000 people.

The recently released National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data for 2023 show that crimes in nearly all the categories surged. However, the report presents a shocking anomaly with regard to crimes against women: most of the major categories that list out crimes against women show a decline compared to the previous year.

As shown in the chart, cases of arson soared from just 27 in 2022 to 6,203 in 2023; cases of dacoity rose from 1 to 1,213; and cases of rioting from 84 to 5,421. The number of murders nearly tripled – from 47 to 151 – and attempt-to-murder cases increased from 153 to 818. Property crimes also increased: cases of robbery rose from 7 to 330, cases of burglary from 39 to 183, and cases of theft from 1,286 to 2,394. Cases under arms and explosives laws nearly doubled (64 to 116) and those related to promoting enmity between groups surged from 15 to 473. Taken together, these figures reveal a dramatic escalation in criminal activity across the State.

However, NCRB data show that crimes against women did not register an increase. On the contrary, there was a a 30% decline in cognisable crimes against women. The number of rape cases fell from 42 in 2022 to 27 in 2023, while cases of assault with intent to outrage women's modesty declined from 67 to 66, and sexual harassment cases reduced from 5 to 1. Cases of rape involving minor girls under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, dropped from 44 to 43.

This is despite many reports of gendered violence surfacing in May 2023. In July 2023, 10 Manipur legislators from the Kuki-Zo community released a statement mentioning at least four incidents where women belonging to their community were either raped or murdered since May 3, 2023. A First Information Report (FIR), accessed by *The Hindu*, reported women working at a car wash centre in Imphal East being tortured by a mob of around 100-200 persons on May 4, 2023.

In July 2023, the National Commission for Women was apprised of more incidents of violence against women when two women activists and a civil society organisation called the North American Manipur Tribal Association made an appeal. The incidents listed included harassment of Kuki-Zomi women on the Manipur University campus, of two women at the Nightingale Nurse Institute, and the alleged rape and murder of four women in Imphal.

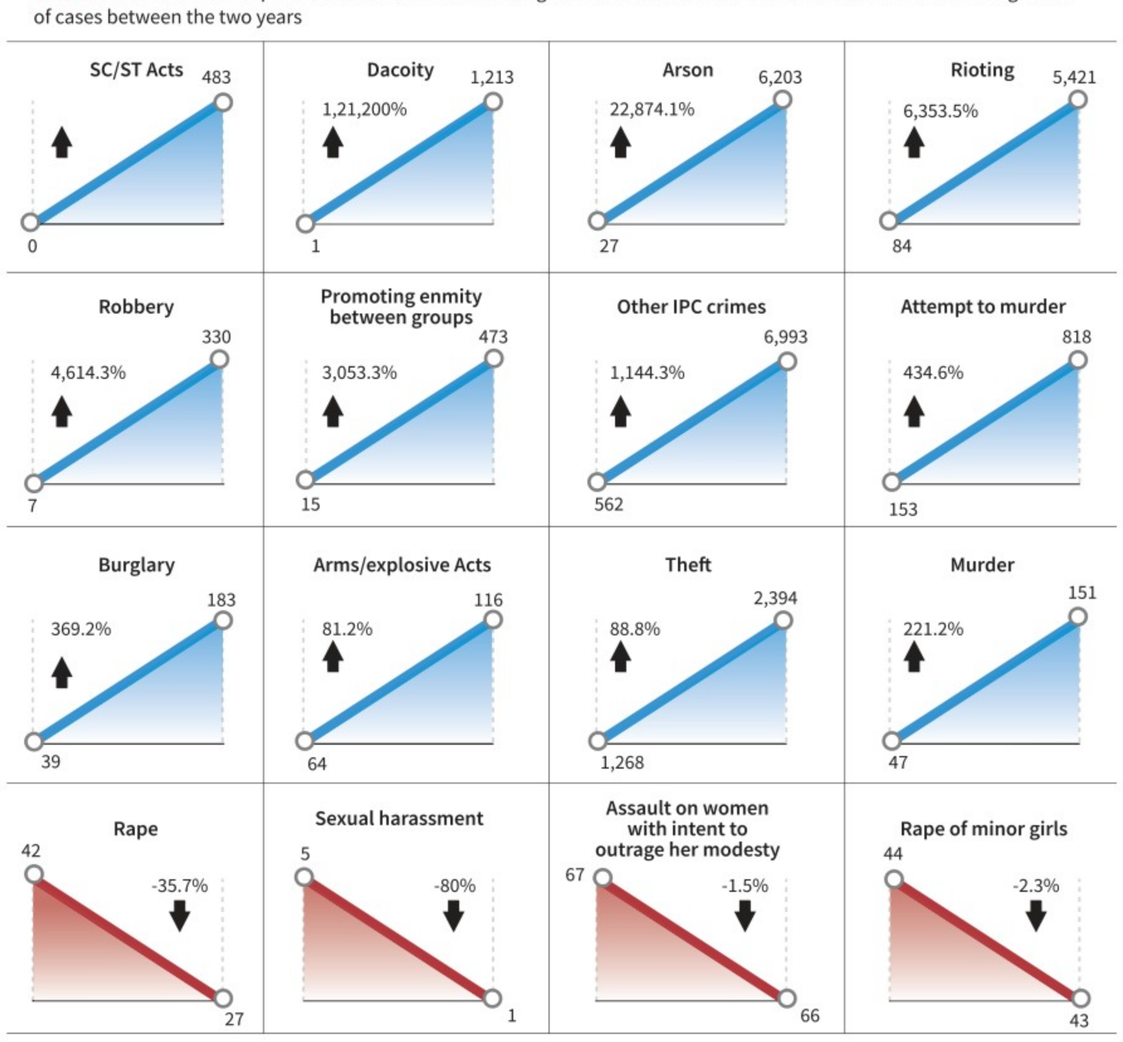
The juxtaposition of the reported decline in crimes against women with the surge in other crime categories points to a massive underreporting of offences involving women. While under-reporting of crimes against women is a well-documented trend across India, driven largely by social stigma, the case of Manipur highlights this problem even more starkly.

Hidden horrors

The data for the charts were collected from the 2022 and 2023 editions of the National Crime Records Bureau's "Crime in India" report

Suffering in silence: Women protest violence against Kuki women in Churachandpur district of Manipur in July 2023. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Chart: Number of cases reported under various crime categories in 2022 and 2023. The charts also show the change in % of cases between the two years



FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO OCTOBER 9, 1975

Nehru Museum's oral history project

New Delhi, Oct. 8: The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library is engaged in collecting valuable source material for writing modern Indian history through personal interviews with those who participated or witnessed important events.

About 600 interviews of known or little known persons have been done so far under the "Oral history project," conceived by the Library as part of its research activities.

The project concentrates on recollections of men and women, who came into contact with great leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, or were connected with important political events or movements either as participants or witnesses.

Effort is also being made to collect material, which would throw light on the activities of various parties and communities forcing the British to quit the country in 1947.

An official of the Library explained that not enough was known about the nationalist movement at the grassroots with the result that a detailed study is hampered for want of first-hand material. The "Oral history project" will be particularly useful in supplementing the existing documentation to fill in the gaps.

The project is not restricted to some important people. Many have been interviewed because they were in a position to observe at first hand, or take part in public affairs at local or regional level or could recall critical phases in Indian politics.

In arranging interviews preference has been given to older people. Some of those interviewed like K.N. Katju, R.P. Masani, Sampurnanand, Purshotham Dass Trikamdas and P.N. Sapru have since died.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO OCTOBER 9, 1925

Indian Railway fares

Simla, Oct. 9: Sir Charles Innes, Member for Railways, addressing the Railway Conference yesterday, after the President's speech, said the desire to co-operate with them for the improvement of Railways flourished also in the Central Legislature, which wanted that the Railways should be well and efficiently run. The Railway earnings in the first six months of the year instead of being better than those of last year were worse by 120 lakhs.

From Page One

Trade deal a launchpad for growth, says U.K. PM

Both leaders would engage with business and industry leaders regarding the opportunities presented by the trade agreement. "They will also exchange views on issues of regional and global importance," it added.

The India-U.K. CETA aims at boosting bilateral trade by £25.5 billion annually. It provides substantial tariff reductions on a range of goods, including textiles, whisky, and cars, enhancing competitiveness for exporters in both markets.

Specifically, the U.K. will offer duty-free access on 99.1% of its tariff lines, covering 100% of the trade value immediately upon enforcement.

Investments and visas

Mr. Starmer's trip to India has yielded positive statements from some U.K. companies, such as Rolls-Royce, about their future plans in India.

"We have deep ambitions to develop India as a home for Rolls-Royce, building on our strong and successful partnership," Tufan Erginbilgic, CEO of Rolls-Royce, said in Mumbai. "Our competitively advantaged technologies across air, land, and sea applications position us to successfully build in-country capabilities and foster strategic partnerships that will accelerate India's progress towards a Viksit Bharat," he said.

Mr. Starmer, however, reportedly indicated that the U.K. would not be revisiting its visa requirements for Indians. According to the *BBC*, Mr. Starmer reportedly said that no business leaders he had met so far raised the question of visas. It added that, during the flight to India, Mr. Starmer said that visas "played no part" in the CETA and that the situation had not changed.

Mr. Starmer also visited the Yash Raj Films (YRF) studio, where he met Indian producers and film stars, such as Rani Mukherjee.

The British Prime Minister is reportedly keen to strengthen cultural ties between India and the U.K. and promote collaboration between the film industries of the two countries. The U.K. government issued a release on Wednesday saying that three new Bollywood movies would be made in the U.K. from next year, with YRF having confirmed plans to bring their major productions to locations across the U.K. from early 2026.

Commerce and Industries Minister Piyush Goyal met Peter Kyle, the U.K.'s Secretary of State for Business and Trade, in Mumbai with a view to moving forward with the operationalisation of the India-U.K. CETA, the Commerce and Industry Ministry said in a statement. Mr. Kyle is part of the delegation accompanying Mr. Starmer.

11 soldiers among 30 killed in Pak. province

"We will not allow elements that harm Pakistan's integrity to succeed," he added.

President Asif Ali Zardari paid tributes to the "courageous action of security forces in the Orakzai district".

Mr. Zardari expressed heartfelt sympathy with the families of the soldiers, praying that they bear their loss with patience and courage, a statement issued by the presidency said. "The entire nation stands as a lead wall with its armed forces," the statement quoted him as saying.

Pakistan has seen a surge in militant attacks, particularly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan provinces, after the banned TTP called off its ceasefire with the government in November 2022 and vowed to target security forces, police, and law enforcement agencies.

According to the latest statistics issued by the Centre for Research and Security Studies (CRSS), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was the worst-hit region in the country in the third quarter of 2025. It suffered nearly 71% (638) of the total violence-linked fatalities, and over 67% (221) of the incidents of violence.

Shah behaving like 'acting PM', Mamata tells Modi

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday cautioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying he should not always place his trust in Union Home Minister Amit Shah. Speaking on a range of issues, including the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the State, Ms. Banerjee alleged that Mr. Shah was "behaving like an acting Prime Minister"/

"This is all Amit Shah's game. He behaves like he is the acting Prime Minister of the country. We can request the Prime Minister not to trust Amit Shah always. One day he will become your Mir Jafar [traitor]," Ms. Banerjee told presspersons on her return from North Bengal.

The Trinamool Congress chairperson has often in the past targeted Mr. Shah, accusing him of taking key decisions on behalf of the Prime Minister. Ms. Banerjee also warned the BJP against arrogance.

SC slams CBI, M.P. for delay in arresting police officers

Court seeks written explanations from the CBI and the State for the delay in complying with its May 15 order to arrest inspectors accused of custodial death; matter will be heard on November 6

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday pulled up the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Madhya Pradesh government for the inordinate delay in arresting two police officers accused in the alleged custodial death of 25-year-old Deva Pardhi, even as the agency informed the court that both officers had finally been taken into custody.

A Bench of Justices B.V. Nagarathna and R. Mahadevan observed that the arrests were effected only after repeated admonitions from the court and the issuance of a contempt warning.

"The fact remains that there has been non-compliance with the order dated May 15, 2025, and it is only pursuant to the contempt petition and the observations made by this court that the arrest has taken place," the Bench recorded in its order.

> The fact remains that there has been non-compliance with the order dated May 15, 2025, and it is only pursuant to the contempt petition and the observations made by this court that the arrest has taken place
>
> **SUPREME COURT BENCH**

The court directed both the CBI and the State government to file written explanations detailing the reasons for the delay in implementing its May 15 order, which had required that the two officers be arrested within a month of the case being transferred to the CBI. The matter will next be heard on November 6, when the court will consider their affidavits.

The 25-year-old had been taken into custody along with his uncle, Gangaram Pardhi, in July 2024 in connection with a theft case. While the police claimed that he had died of a heart attack, his mother alleged that he had been tortured to death. The Supreme Court later transferred the investigation to the CBI after finding that the State police had colluded with the accused.

CBI submission

Appearing for the CBI on Wednesday, Additional Solicitor-General Rajkumar Bhaskar Thakare informed the Bench that the agency had arrested the two accused officers, Inspectors Uttam Singh Kushwaha and Sanjiv Singh Mawai. He submitted that the former was arrested on September 27, while the latter was taken into custody on October 5.

Even as it took note of the arrests, the Bench voiced sharp disapproval of the prolonged delay in executing its order. "Why couldn't you arrest them all these days? This is not how a Supreme Court order is to be complied with. Because we said we would ask the Chief Secretary to be present today, you have acted," Justice Nagarathna told the CBI counsel.

Justice Mahadevan also sought to know what departmental action had been initiated against the two officers. He noted that the accused officers had "even filed for anticipatory bail despite this court's clear order that they should be arrested", and said there must be "concrete action" against them.

Accordingly, the court asked the State to apprise it on the next date of hearing of the departmental measures taken against the two officials.

Lawyer seeks A-G nod for action over attack on CJI

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A Supreme Court lawyer has written to Attorney-General R. Venkataramani seeking consent to initiate criminal contempt proceedings against advocate Rakesh Kishore, who allegedly flung papers at Chief Justice of India (CJI) B.R. Gavai during court proceedings on October 6.

In a letter on Wednesday, advocate K.R. Subhash Chandran said the incident had "diminished the majesty" of the Supreme Court and that the alleged contemnor had shown "no remorse" for his actions, thereby aggravating the misconduct.

"There is a clear case of scandalising and lowering of the authority of the Supreme Court by interfering and obstructing the administration of justice," Mr. Chandran wrote. Describing the act as "the most contemptuous," he said it "diminishes the majesty and authority of the court and defeats the Constitution of India."

IAF marks 93rd anniversary with ceremonial parade at Hindon Base

The Hindu Bureau
GHAZIABAD

The Indian Air Force (IAF) on Wednesday celebrated its 93rd anniversary with a ceremonial parade at the Air Force Station, Hindon, showcasing its legacy, operational strength, and commitment to innovation.

The Chief of the Air Staff (CAS) Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh reviewed the parade. The event was attended by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, and the chiefs of the Army and the Naval Staff. Former Air Chiefs and senior officers were also present.

President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended greetings on the occasion through social media platforms.

The proceedings began with the marching-in of the President's Colours. As the CAS arrived, three Mi-17 1V helicopters flew overhead in the '*Dhwaj*' formation, carrying the National Flag, the IAF Flag, and the Operation Sindoor Flag. The parade was commanded by Group Captain Chetan Pradeep Deshpande.

Air Force contingent at Hindon Airbase for its 93rd anniversary in Ghaziabad on Wednesday. R. V. MOORTHY

The Air Force Band led the march, followed by a performance by the Air Warrior Drill Team. During the ceremony, Air Chief Marshal Singh felicitated 97 air warriors with medals and presented six unit citations for exceptional service.

Reflecting on the IAF's journey, Air Chief Marshal Singh said the force had grown from "humble beginnings" to become the fourth largest Air Force in the world, capable of influencing outcomes with "speed and precision".

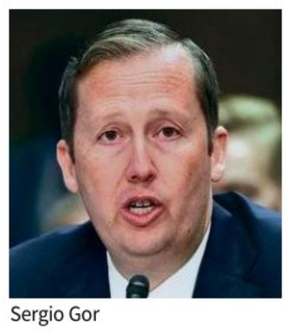
Citing Operation Sindoor as an example of operational excellence, he reaffirmed confidence in indigenous platforms and underscored the IAF's philosophy of "Train like we fight".

The Heritage Flight section performed an aerial display featuring the Tiger Moth, HT-2, and Harvard aircraft, symbolising the IAF's evolution over the decades. A static display of frontline assets – including Rafale, Su-30MKI, Apache, MiG-29, C-17 Globemaster, C-130J Super Hercules, and the Akash Missile System – reflected the IAF's modernisation drive.

The traditional flypast and aerial display are scheduled to be held in Guwahati on November 9, marking the culmination of this year's Air Force Day celebrations.

U.S. Senate confirms Sergio Gor as Indian Ambassador, Kapur as regional official

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI



Sergio Gor

After months of rocky relations, the India-U.S. engagement is set to get a boost as the U.S. Senate confirmed the nominations of Sergio Gor as Ambassador to India and S. Paul Kapur, an American of Indian origin as the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia.

Mr. Gor has also been appointed U.S. President Donald Trump's special envoy on South and Central Asia, a new post that did not require confirmation. His role in the region has been watched keenly, and with some misgivings in New Delhi, especially as Mr. Gor met with leaders of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Bhutan in New York last month, and Pakistani leadership had travelled to Washington.

Officials did not indicate a date for Mr. Gor to take up his post as Ambassador in Delhi, but did not rule out his arrival in the next few weeks in his role as special envoy, ahead of a possible meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mr. Trump on the sidelines of the upcoming ASEAN-related summits in Kuala Lumpur on October 26-27, where they may repair ties and discuss scheduling the Quad summit.

At the Senate hearing on September 11, Mr. Gor, who said the U.S.-India relationship would "define the 21st century", indicated that he and U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau would travel to the region in October, and set out the tasks before him. Mr. Gor said that he would work to advance the India-U.S. trade relationship so that it is "fair" to American businesses, adding that "India's protectionist policies and regulatory barriers have prevented [the two countries] from fully realising this partnership". He also said that "getting" India to stop buying Russian oil is a "top priority".

Mr. Gor and Mr. Kapur, who will be the point-persons for India and the region, were confirmed among 107 nominees in a single vote with 51 Senators in favour and 47 against, who convened despite the U.S. government shutdown, on Tuesday.

"Ambassador Gor's confirmation is a signal to New Delhi that the U.S.-India relationship is a top priority for the administration and the region, and together, through the right diplomatic channels, [India and the U.S.] can iron out the creases and reach consensus," Mukesh Aghi, president and CEO of the U.S.-India Strategic Partnership Forum, said on Wednesday, referring to Mr. Gor as a "trusted confidant" of Mr. Trump, and Mr. Kapur as a "stellar academic and a South Asia scholar who is second to none in understanding the security of the region and New Delhi's concerns vis-a-vis Beijing and Islamabad".

Kapur, a seasoned hand

While Mr. Gor, a 38-year-old close Trump aide and MAGA (Make America Great Again campaign) insider, has no previous experience on India, Mr. Kapur is an experienced analyst on India and the region, known well in South Block. He has worked in the U.S. State Department's policy planning division in 2020-21. The author of several books and papers on Pakistan-sponsored jihadist groups in South Asia, U.S.-India relations, and India and Pakistan's nuclear programmes, Mr. Kapur has been a frequent visitor to the region and was a visiting fellow at the Delhi-based Observer Research Foundation until recently.

Two soldiers go missing in Chenab Valley snowstorm

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Two Army personnel have gone missing in an anti-terror operation launched on October 6-7 in the Chenab Valley's Kishtwar-Kokernag range, the Indian Army said on Wednesday. The missing soldiers belong to the Army's elite Para Commando unit, official sources said.

A team of soldiers confronted a snowstorm and white-out conditions in the mountains of south Kashmir on the night of October 6-7, an Army spokesperson said. "Intense search and rescue operations have been launched but [the effort is] hampered due to prevailing adverse weather conditions," the spokesperson added.

The Hindu is set to host property expo in Singapore on Oct. 11, 12

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Hindu is set to host the first-ever edition of the South India Property Expo 2025 in Singapore on October 11 and 12 at the Marina Bay Sands.

The two-day event will showcase a curated selection of premium real estate opportunities across South India, connecting developers with buyers, investors, and members of the Indian diaspora.

The expo aims to bring together top developers, luxury property brands, and industry experts under one roof, providing visitors with a comprehensive overview of residential, commercial, and investment opportunities in India's rapidly growing southern markets.

The event will feature exclusive projects, investment-ready properties, legal and financial consultation zones, and attractive expo-only offers, making it a one-stop destination for prospective homeowners, seasoned investors, and those seeking to reconnect with their roots in South India.

The inauguration ceremony will take place on October 11 at 10.15 a.m. A. Mohamed Ali, president of CREDAI Chennai, will be the chief guest.

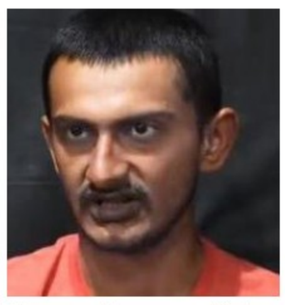
'No formal communication yet on Indian held in Ukraine while fighting for Russia'

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Indian officials on Tuesday said they were seeking more details about an Indian national who appeared on camera claiming he had been detained by Ukrainian authorities while fighting for the Russian Army.

The 22-year-old, was identified as Majoti Sahil Mohammed from Gujarat. India has repeatedly raised with Moscow the issue of its nationals serving in the Russian Army and urged their repatriation, but this is the first instance of an Indian fighting on the Russian side being captured by Ukraine and made to confess on video.

"The Indian Mission in Kyiv is ascertaining the veracity of the report. It has not yet received any formal communication from the Ukrainian side in this regard," said an official source on the Indian citizen reportedly captured by Ukrainian forces.



The man, who appeared in the video, has been identified as Majoti Sahil Mohammed.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has been cautioning against unscrupulous immigration agencies that lure young professionals abroad with fake job offers. Since the escalation of the war in Ukraine, *The Hindu* has reported on how youngsters from across India were duped with such offers in Russia and ended up at the battlefront.

The matter figured in official discussions most recently when External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar visited Russia from August 19-21 to co-chair the IRIGC-TEC (India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation) with Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov.

NDA, grand alliance evenly poised for first phase; all eyes on impact of Kishor's party

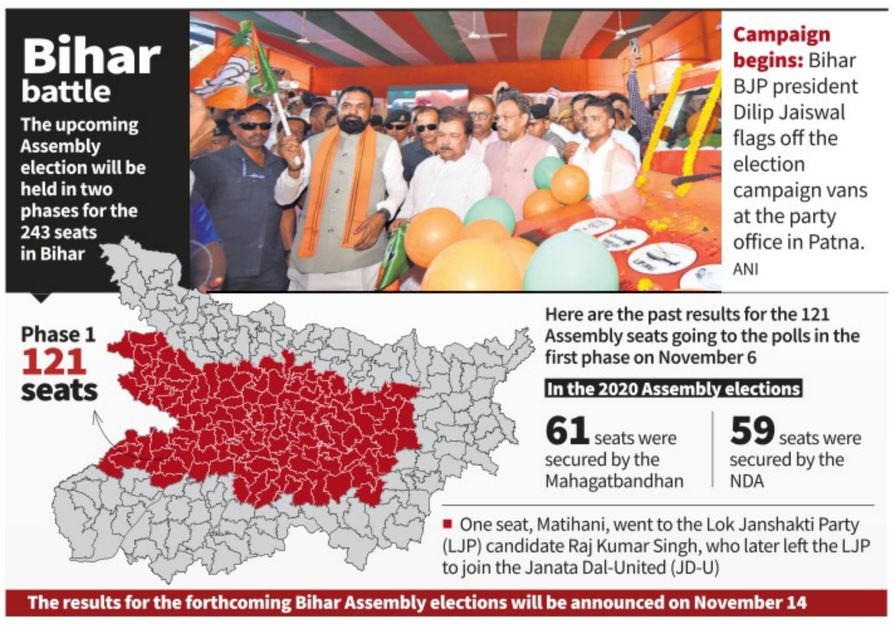
JSP to announce candidate list today, brings up unemployment, migration, corruption; buzz over whether or not Tejashwi will contest two seats: Raghopur and Phulparas; parties are trying to maximise support from vote bases, caste calculations; candidates to face a tough fight for every seat

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

Of the 121 Assembly constituencies going to the polls in the first phase of the Bihar Assembly election on November 6, the ruling National Democratic Alliance and the Opposition *mahagatbandhan* (grand alliance) are evenly poised, as was the case in the 2020 election.

In 2020, the grand alliance won 61 and the NDA 59 of these seats. The Matihani seat in Begusarai district went to the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP), but its candidate, Raj Kumar Singh, later left the party and joined the Janata Dal (United).

This time, the newly floated Jan Suraaj Party (JSP) of the former poll strategist Prashant Kishor could alter expectations in some seats.


Bihar battle
The upcoming Assembly election will be held in two phases for the 243 seats in Bihar
Campaign begins: Bihar BJP president Dilip Jaiswal flags off the election campaign vans at the party office in Patna. ANI
Phase 1
121 seats
Here are the past results for the 121 Assembly seats going to the polls in the first phase on November 6
In the 2020 Assembly elections
61 seats were secured by the Mahagatbandhan
59 seats were secured by the NDA
One seat, Matihani, went to the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) candidate Raj Kumar Singh, who later left the LJP to join the Janata Dal-United (JD-U)
The results for the forthcoming Bihar Assembly elections will be announced on November 14

Surprise factor

"Both the contesting blocs are locked in a very tight and tough position, with almost an equal number of seats in their kitty. But this time, Mr. Kishor's JSP could foil the chances of some of the candidates in some places," political analyst Nawal Kishore Choudhary said.

Asked which bloc's electoral chances Mr. Kishor's party was likely to harm more, Mr. Choudhary said, "Let's wait for the announcement of the names of his party's candidates, and it will be clear."

The JSP will announce the first list of its candidates on Thursday.

The JSP, which was founded on October 2, 2024, with the "school bag" as its party symbol, is pushing hard to become a third alternative with its campaign on people-focused issues such as unemployment, migration, and corruption.

Assembly election for 243 seats will take place in 2 phases, on November 6 and 11

As things stand, candidates are likely to face a tough fight for every seat. The NDA, led by the JD(U) and the BJP, and the grand alliance helmed by the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and Congress are trying to maximise the benefits of their caste calculus and chemistry with voters.

The buzz in the State's political circles, meanwhile, centres on RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, also the Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, and whether he will contest two seats – the party's traditional Raghopur constituency in Vaishali district, where Mr. Yadav won in 2015 and 2020, and Phulparas in Madhubani, where Muslim (13.3%) and Yadav (17.3%) voters are in sizeable numbers.

In 2020, Sheela Kumari of the Janata Dal(U) won the Phulparas seat by defeating Kripa Nath Pathak of the Congress by over 10,000 votes.

Traditionally, Phulparas has voted for socialist leaders.

The RJD has not made any official comment on the possibility of Mr. Yadav contesting two seats this time.

The 2020 election in Bihar was held in three phases, with 71, 94, and 78 seats going to the polls in the respective phases.

Some of the seats won by the BJP in the 2020 election were Saharsha, Darbhanga, Hayaghat, Keoti, Begusarai, Munger, Lakhisarai, Ara, Patna Sahib, Kumhrar, and Bankipore.

The Janata Dal(U) candidates were victorious in Alamnagar, Bihariganj, Vaishali, Kalyanpur, Mahishi, Parbatta, Tarapur, Barbigha, Nalanda, Harnaut, and others.

The RJD bagged Hathua, Madhepura, Simri-Bakhtiyarpur, Darbhanga (rural), Mokama, Sheikhpura, Raghopur, Hasanpur, Ujjiyarpur, and others.

The Congress won Muzaffarpur, Maharajganj, Jamlapur, Bikram, Buxar, and others.

The Left parties, part of the grand alliance, won several seats in 2020. The Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Liberation won Ziradei, Darauli, Paliganj, Tarari, Dumraon, and others.

The Communist Party of India (CPI) won Teghra and Bakhari, and the Communist Party of India (Marxist) Manjhi and Bibhutipur.

In all, the RJD won 75 seats, BJP 74, Janata Dal(U) 43, and Congress 19 in 2020. Among the Left parties, the CPI(ML) Liberation bagged 12 seats, with the CPI and CPI(M) taking two each.

The coming Assembly election for 243 seats will take place in two phases, on November 6 and 11, with the results to be announced on November 14.

INBRIEF

JMM leaders meet Tejashwi demanding seven seats

As intense seat-sharing talks are under way with the Bihar-based political parties in the INDIA bloc, two senior leaders of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha met Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav on Tuesday at his residence to demand seven Assembly seats in the Bihar elections. The delegation included Jharkhand Urban Development Minister Sudivya Kumar and JMM central general secretary Vinod Pandey. Sources in the party said that both leaders pressed for the demand of seven seats and they submitted a list as well. Sources in the RJD said that the party had agreed on two seats – Chakai and Katoria – to JMM.

Manjhi, Chirag signal unease in NDA seat-sharing talks

Ahead of the final seat-sharing talks in the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), Union Ministers Jitan Ram Manjhi and Chirag Paswan posted cryptic messages on X, sending a signal to ally BJP over their demand for a "respectable" share of seats. Mr. Manjhi shared verses from Ramdhari Singh Dinkar's *Rashmirathi*, implying the BJP was Duryodhana, unwilling to give away a meagre five villages to the Pandavas. Mr. Paswan posted a message on the death anniversary of his father, "Papa always used to say, do not commit a crime, do not tolerate a crime. If you want to live, learn to die and learn to fight at every step."

Cong. meet clears 25 candidates for Bihar elections amid seat-sharing talks with RJD

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress Central Election Committee (CEC) met on Wednesday and is learnt to have cleared 25 candidates for the Bihar Assembly election in constituencies that are traditional Congress strongholds.

Though seat-sharing talks are still on with the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), the Congress is expected to contest 55 to 60 of the 243 seats as part of the Opposition alliance, called the *mahagatbandhan* (grand alliance), in Bihar.

Top leaders, including Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi, party chief Mallikarjun Kharge, and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, joined the CEC deliberations virtually. AICC general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal and party treasurer Ajay Maken were among the leaders who attended the meeting held at Indira Bhavan, the party's new headquarters.

Gearing up: Congress leaders during the party's Central Election Committee meeting for Bihar, in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

Bihar Congress chief Rajesh Ram said the senior party functionaries had patiently heard the leaders from the State, adding that the seats discussed during the meeting are those which have already been cleared by the alliance partners and have been strongholds of the Congress.

"At the CEC meeting, we said those seats which are traditionally held by the Congress would remain with us... for which candidates have also been decided after deliberations," the Bihar Congress president said.

"But we will declare the names of candidates only after discussion with our alliance partners and also with our State leaders," Mr. Ram said, adding that the number of seats each partner will contest would be announced jointly.

"We are happy with the seats discussed today at the CEC meeting... All top leaders agreed to our suggestions and candidates proposed by State leaders," he said.

'No seat-sharing fight'

The Bihar Congress chief insisted that there is no fight for seats among the grand alliance partners.

"We will jointly decide the candidates and announce them at a press conference, after clarity amongst all our partners," he said. The Congress leader in the Bihar Assembly, Shakeel Ahmed, said that the CEC had granted its approval for candidate names in seats which are Congress strongholds.

"One round of discussions with alliance partners remains and after that, we will decide on the seats that each one is contesting," Mr. Ahmed said.

CEC member and Kishanganj MP Mohammed Jawaid later confirmed that the party had cleared the names of 25 candidates for the upcoming polls.

On Thursday, senior Congress leaders such as Ashok Gehlot, Bhupesh Baghel, and Jairam Ramesh are likely to release a chargesheet in Patna against the Nitish Kumar-led NDA government in the State.

17th Bihar Assembly met for only 146 days between 2020 and 2025, finds an analysis

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The outgoing Bihar Legislative Assembly met for an average of 29 days a year, spending each day an average of three hours. Between 2020 and 2025, the House met for 146 days, which is the lowest of all its five-year terms, an analysis by PRS Legislative Research, an independent think tank, revealed.

According to PRS Legislative Research, the average duration of sitting is one of the lowest in comparison with other State Assemblies.

The decrease is significant, considering that the first Assembly in post-Independence India sat for 391 days, while the second one for 434 days.

A view of the Bihar Legislative Assembly Building in Patna on on Wednesday. R.V. MOORTHY

The decline set in since the eighth Assembly between 1980 and 1985, when the Assembly met for 208 days.

As per the analysis, the 17th Assembly passed 78 Bills, and all the laws were passed on the day of their introduction. None of the Bills were referred to any committee for further deliberation.

Of the Bills passed during this term, the majority were related to education, finance and taxation, and administration. Some of these Bills included the Bihar Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024, the Bihar Control of Crimes Bill, 2024, and the Platform-Based Gig Workers (Registration, Safety and Welfare) Bill, 2025.

In 2023, the Assembly passed two Bills to increase reservations in government jobs and educational institutions. These were, however, struck down by the Patna High Court in June 2024.

In the five years since 2020, the Assembly discussed the Ministry expenditures for an average of nine days, it said.

EC to facilitate elderly to vote using postal ballot in Bihar

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission will facilitate the elderly, Persons with Disabilities (PwD), and service electors to vote using postal ballots in the Bihar Assembly polls.

"Such electors can avail themselves of this facility using Form 12 D and submit to the Returning Officer through their Booth-Level Officer within five days of the issuance of the notification of election. Polling teams will collect their votes at their homes," said the poll body on Wednesday.

The electors on essential services on the date of poll can apply for the postal ballot facility through the designated nodal officer of their respective department.

'BJP has finished Nitish Kumar both physically and mentally'

Rajesh Ranjan, alias Pappu Yadav, says he personally considers Nitish Kumar an honest man, but asserts that the BJP has finished him physically and mentally; he also adds that without Nitish, the BJP has no identity in Bihar and is on the verge of collapse; key issues like caste census, vote theft need to be addressed collectively by the alliance, he says

INTERVIEW

Rajesh Ranjan

Amit Bhelari

Rajesh Ranjan, alias Pappu Yadav, a six-time MP from Bihar, is currently the Independent MP for Purnea in the Seemanchal (border) area of the State. Though it is an Assembly election in Bihar, the MP has been in the limelight for many reasons. Recently, Mr. Ranjan was seen sharing the dais with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and was also caught on camera when he was not allowed to share the open vehicle in which Rahul Gandhi and Tejashwi Yadav were moving in Patna. Edited excerpts from an interview at his residence in Patna.

You are sometimes seen with [Congress leader] Rahul Gandhi, sometimes with [Rashtriya Janata Dal leader] Tejashwi Yadav, and sometimes sharing the stage with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Are you with the NDA or the INDIA bloc?

I am with the ideology of Rahul Gandhi*ji*, my association is with the Congress party. I have the blessing of Rahul Gandhi*ji* and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra*ji*. I work for the Congress party in Jharkhand and Delhi as well. If the Prime Minister comes to my parliamentary constituency [of Purnea], then I have to attend it as a part of protocol. It's because of me that the Vande Bharat and Amrit Bharat trains were flagged off [by the PM]. He is not the Prime Minister of the BJP; he is the Prime Minister of the country. You are just making everything political.

PTI

On the topic of protocol, was it the reason that you were not allowed to board Rahul Gandhi's vehicle in Patna?

Since morning, I was busy with the Bihar bandh and my name was not there on the approved list with the security personnel. You people are just making it an unnecessary issue. The people of Bihar have elected me an MP six times. Even if I am humiliated, for me, what matters the most is the self-respect of the people of Bihar.

You are an independent MP. Has the Congress accepted you?

I am in the Congress party and my Jan Adhikar Party was merged into the Congress in the presence of Priyanka*ji*. I am with the ideology of the Congress and spent a month and a half in Jharkhand for the Congress. I did public meetings on behalf of every Congress candidate in the elections in Delhi, Punjab, and Maharashtra. How much proof do you need?

Do you want to see Tejashwi Yadav as the Chief Minister of Bihar?

I am going ahead and working on the ideology, on the struggle and issues raised by my leader. At present, the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister are not the issues for Bihar. The issues are what Rahul Gandhi*ji* has raised, like caste census, vote theft, protecting the Constitution, and poverty in Bihar, which need to be taken up collectively by the alliance. At present, we should talk about the issues, not about any particular person.

You always say that the Chief Minister should be from an Extremely Backward Class (EBC) community or a Dalit.

I have been saying this for a long time that there are leaders from EBCs, Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes, and minorities. My leader [Rahul Gandhi] has been saying they should get their share in proportion to their population. I will stick to the statement that Bihar's social structure and political scenario are for EBC, OBC, and SC.

What is your take on the current Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar ?

I personally consider him a good and honest man. However, the BJP has finished him physically and mentally. I respect him a lot, but at present, he is not in a condition to run the State as Chief Minister. The most important thing is that ever since he became the Chief Minister, only bureaucrats have been running the government. In a democracy, it is not good to give all powers to the bureaucracy.

Do you think the BJP will allow him to continue as Chief Minister if voted to power?

I don't know what the BJP will do because, as a political party, they themselves are on the verge of collapse in Bihar. Without Nitish*ji*, the BJP has no identity in Bihar.

(Full interview on newsth.live/pappuyadav)

INBRIEF

At least six injured in scooter explosions at Kanpur market

Two scooters parked in the congested Mishri Bazaar near the Markaz mosque in Kanpur exploded seconds apart on Wednesday evening, injuring six people and damaging nearby shops, the police said. The blasts occurred around 7.30 p.m. in the crowded Moolganj area. The sound of the explosions was heard up to 500 metres from the spot. The injured were rushed to hospital. Two of them were discharged after first aid and two others are undergoing treatment for burns, said Police Commissioner of Kanpur Raghubir Lal. He added that the incident was being investigated from all possible angles. PTI

4 workers killed, 6 injured as lift crashes in Chhattisgarh

At least four workers were killed and six injured after a lift collapsed from a height at a power plant in Chhattisgarh's Sakti district, the police said on Wednesday. Among the injured, four are critical and the remaining two are stable, Superintendent of Police Ankita Sharma said. Ms. Sharma told *The Hindu* that the accident had taken place at RKM Powergen Private Ltd.'s plant in the Dabhra area of Ucchpinda village on Tuesday night. "They were 40 ft above the ground when the lift collapsed. We reached the spot and took them to Jindal Fortis Hospital in neighbouring Raigarh district. A case has been registered against the owner of the company."

ED curbs fake summons scam with new QR code verification

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has implemented a mechanism of generating summons through a system that includes a QR code and a unique passcode to ensure that unscrupulous elements are unable to extort money from people using fake summonses. Officials have been instructed to issue all summonses through the system, except in certain exceptional circumstances. The summons generated from the system will be duly signed and stamped by the issuing authority and will include the officer's official email ID and the phone number. The verification of the summons can be done 24 hours after the date of issue.

Delhi HC issues notice to Red Chillies in defamation case

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday issued notice to Red Chillies Entertainment, Netflix and others on a defamation suit filed by Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer Sameer Wankhede against the makers of the series *Ba***ds of Bollywood*. Justice Purushaindra Kumar Kaurav issued summons to the defendants which include the owners of Red Chillies, X, Google, and Meta Platforms, and asked them to file their replies within seven days. The court did not pass any interim order on Mr. Wankhede's application seeking to take down the several alleged defamatory contents from several websites and social media platforms.

Draft labour policy unites social security schemes

It aims at creating universal, portable social security accounts for all workers by 2030; it also seeks to raise women's labour participation to 35%, offer single-window digital compliance for MSMEs

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Workforce reforms : The policy envisions a labour ecosystem that improves protection and productivity for every worker. FILE PHOTO

Universal and portable social security is a major component of the draft National Labour and Employment Policy, which proposes to create a universal account by integrating the Employees Provident Fund Organisation, Employees State Insurance Corporation, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, e-SHRAM, and State welfare Boards.

The draft policy, known as the Shram Shakti Niti, 2025, was released on Wednesday for public consultation.

The proposals include the implementation of the Occupational Safety and Health Code with risk-based inspections, gender-sensitive standards, and the convergence of various skills schemes. The draft policy presents a renewed vision for a fair, inclusive, and future-ready world of work aligned with the national aspiration of a developed India by 2047, Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said.

"Rooted in India's civilisational ethos of *śrama dharma*, the dignity and moral value of work, the policy envisions a labour ecosystem that ensures protection, productivity, and participation for every worker. It seeks to create a balanced framework that upholds workers' welfare while enabling enterprises to grow and generate sustainable livelihoods," Mr. Mandaviya said.

Policy outcomes

Expected outcomes of the policy include universal worker registration and social security portability, near-zero workplace fatalities, increased female labour-force participation, a sharp reduction in informal jobs through digital compliance, AI-driven labour-governance capacity in all States, the creation of millions of green and decent jobs, and a fully converged "One Nation Integrated Workforce" ecosystem. The last date to submit suggestions on the draft is October 27.

The draft policy seeks to increase women's participation in the labour force to 35% by 2030, and expand entrepreneurship and career guidance initiatives for youth. It also proposes a single-window for digital compliance, with self-certification and simplified returns for MSMEs. Promotion of green jobs, AI-enabled safety systems, just-transition pathways for workers, and a unified national labour data architecture ensuring inter-ministerial coherence and transparent monitoring are also part of the policy document.

Accountability plan

Policy implementation will proceed in three phases. Phase I (2025-27) focuses on institutional setup and social-security integration.

During Phase II (2027-30), the nationwide rollout of universal social security accounts, along with skill-credit systems, and district-level Employment Facilitation Cells. Phase III (beyond 2030) will bring in paperless governance, predictive analytics, and continuous policy renewal.

"Progress will be tracked through real-time dashboards, a Labour & Employment Policy Evaluation Index (LPEI) benchmarking States, and an Annual National Labour Report to Parliament," the document says.

After delays, IAF set to receive first Tejas Mk1A fighter jet

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

The HAL's contract to deliver 83 Tejas Mk1A aircraft faced delays due to slow engine deliveries.

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to receive its first light combat aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mk1A on October 17 during a ceremony in Nashik, marking a significant milestone in India's indigenous fighter jet programme.

According to officials, two Tejas Mk1A jets will be handed over to the IAF in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. He will visit the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) facility and interact with the staff involved in production.

HAL's contract to deliver 83 Tejas Mk1A aircraft – originally scheduled to begin in February 2024 – has faced delays primarily due to slow engine deliveries from General Electric (GE Aerospace). With only one or two engines being supplied per month, HAL now targets completing deliveries within four years.

Negotiations for an additional 97 Tejas Mk1A fighters are in the final stages, with talks between the Ministry of Defence and GE Aerospace under way.

Defence analysts point out that the IAF is operating with 29 squadrons and that it may take at least five years to bridge the capability gap. Even months after Operation Sindoor, no significant progress has been made in replenishing the depleted fighter squadrons. Recently, two MiG-21 squadrons have been decommissioned.

IAF chief Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh recently voiced his concern, "Hungry mouths are ready; we are waiting for the food," he said, emphasising that to maintain optimal strength, the force requires two squadrons – 30 to 40 aircraft – produced every year. Meanwhile, the IAF's proposal to acquire 114 multi-role fighter aircraft (MRFA) continues to progress through procedural stages.

The Defence Ministry is considering a plan to procure "Made in India" Rafales, with at least 18 expected to be delivered off-the-shelf in the near term.

WHO seeks clarification from India if cough syrup has been exported to other countries

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

Coldrif cough syrup has now been banned in several States.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has sought clarification from India on whether the cough syrup linked to over 15 child deaths in the country have been exported to other countries, a senior official of the global health agency said on Wednesday.

The WHO is yet to issue a Global Medical Products Alert on Coldrif syrup, the cough syrup which has allegedly caused the child deaths in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. The official added that the need for an alert will be investigated only after receiving a response from Indian health authorities.

So far at least 17 children aged below five have died in India allegedly after consuming cough syrup containing a toxic compound diethylene glycol (DEG). Coldrif was manufactured by Sresan Pharmaceuticals, based in Tamil Nadu. The company is currently under investigation.

The Central government, in an order dated December 18, 2023, had said that the fixed-dose combination (FDC) of chlorpheniramine maleate IP 2mg and phenylephrine HCl IP 5mg drop/ml "should not be used in children below four years of age."

Prescribed to treat symptoms of cold and cough, including runny nose, sneezing and sore throat and watery eyes, Coldrif contains chlorpheniramine maleate, paracetamol and phenylephrine.

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation issued a directive on Wednesday to all State and Union Territory Drug Controllers, calling for strict enforcement of the Drugs Rules, 1945, with specific emphasis on the mandatory testing of raw materials and finished pharmaceutical products before release in the market.

India to boost solar pumps scheme in Africa, island nations

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union government is looking to showcase the PM-KUSUM (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhiyan) programme to several African countries and island nations, Union Minister for Renewable Energy (MNRE) Pralhad Joshi said on Wednesday.

"We are looking to showcase both the PM-KUSUM and the PM Surya Ghar (for rooftop solar installations) programme in countries which have problems with connectivity. We are doing this in Africa and island countries through the ISA (International Solar Alliance) platform," Mr. Joshi said at a curtain-raiser event for the ISA's eighth General Assembly, scheduled later this month. The ₹34,000-crore PM-KUSUM programme is meant to boost solar energy infrastructure in agriculture by setting up 100 GW of solar power plants in farmer-owned land. Launched in 2019, it was to have added a solar capacity of 308 GW by 2022, but has missed targets. The Centre then set a new target, of 348 GW with a deadline of March 2026.

As of September 30, only one part of the scheme, where 17.5 lakh standalone solar pumps were to be installed has made notable progress. About 70% of the pumps have been installed. On the other hand, only 6% of decentralised grid-connected renewable energy power plants, and 16%-25% of grid-connected solar pumps have been installed.

Cong. targets Centre over U.S.-Pakistan military deal

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Wednesday targeted the Centre after reports that the United States is set to supply Raytheon-manufactured air-to-air missiles to Pakistan, saying it shows how quickly "diplomatic setbacks accumulate".

Taking to social media platform X, Congress general secretary (Communications) Jairam Ramesh cited two public notifications of the U.S. Department of War on military contracts.

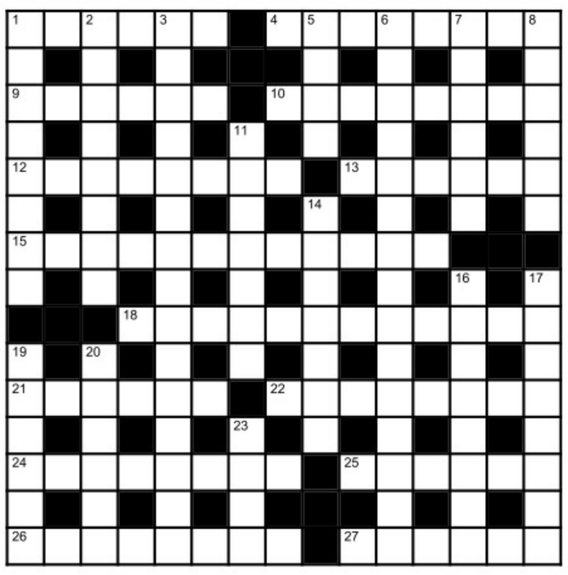
According to the notification, the contract involves foreign military sales to over 30 countries, including the U.K., Germany, Australia, and Pakistan, with delivery expected by May 2030.

TH CROSSWORD + 14609

(set by Pixie Dust)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Go order slim guns at regular intervals (6)
4 Matrimonial scam with criminal shrouding prison (8)
9 So, this river destroyed a man's zoo? (6)
10 Report of French writer (8)
12 Seaman's house in dry lake (4,4)
13 Musical piece taken from the beginnings of Saariaho's opera, nuanced and totally astounding (6)
15 Usual partner's curiously mysterious (12)
18 Tipsy Spooner to claim, "Have no hesitation for a vodka-based drink (12)
21 Journey following daybreak (6)
22 Handle helping to make revolutionary 'He-Man' resurrect (8)
24 Alumni primarily connected around university and flourished (8)
25 Bill and I buried in the past slowly (6)
26 Raving Earl with a couple of females exercising (8)
27 Tree God's hermitage (6)

Down

1 Perhaps ears used frequently to change one's mind? (8)
2 Will begins to operate pretty small and light boats (8)
3 Worthless exchanges? (4-3-8)
5 Bingo! Venue has range (4)
6 Multitasker? Described as one without any pupils! (4,2,3,6)
7 Somehow tug air instrument (6)
8 As per Spooner, all of us settle in room? (6)
11 Guru's cap held by two old ladies (7)
14 Heard knight succeed and outdo (7)
16 Killer without licence, basically foreigner (8)
17 Pot fell over reception area (8)
19 Burning cafe blames missing guards (6)
20 Dim position on the field? (3-3)
23 Intense wailing (4)

SUDOKU

			1			9		
	8		3				6	
		5						8
5		8		4				
	6	1		5		3	9	
				7		4		5
1						7		
	9				6		1	
		3			2			

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

No.SS6665 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

9	4	3	1	6	5	8	2	7
2	5	1	4	7	8	3	9	6
6	7	8	3	9	2	5	4	1
3	6	9	2	4	7	1	5	8
5	1	7	9	8	6	2	3	4
8	2	4	5	1	3	7	6	9
7	8	5	6	2	4	9	1	3
4	9	2	7	3	1	6	8	5
1	3	6	8	5	9	4	7	2

FAITH

Winning the battle within

Dambodbava, an asura, who undertook intense penance to Lord Brahma, asked for 1,000 *kavachas* (armour shields) to protect his body. Each *kavacha* could be destroyed only by one who had performed a minimum of 12 years of rigorous penance. Armed with his boon, he grew arrogant, troubling the Gods, rishis. He challenged Nara and Narayana, incarnations of Lord Vishnu, at Badrikashram. They took turns – while one performed austerities for 12 years, the other fought Dambodbava and broke a *kavacha*. In this way, they destroyed 999 *kavachas*. When only the last one remained, Dambodbava fled to the Sun God for refuge. It is said that he was reborn later as Karna, who retained the final kavacha.

In his previous birth, Duryodhana was an asura named Kali. He did severe penance to Lord Siva. He asked for a *vajra*-like body so that no one could defeat him in his next life. But he committed a sin against Goddess Parvathi. She cursed him, and because of that curse, his boon was weakened. In his next birth as Duryodhana, he was strong but not invincible.

Thirukkudandhai Dr. Venkatesh said in a discourse that Karna was known for his pride and ego. He often showed pomp and self-importance. He joined hands with Duryodhana, who was full of arrogance, haughtiness, and anger. Together, their qualities led them to stand against Dharma. Lord Nara and Narayana were reborn as Arjuna and Krishna to defeat the evil pair of Duryodhana and Karna. We are influenced by evil forces such as anger, pride, and arrogance. To escape their clutches, we need the support and blessings of God, and we should pray for the same.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	81,774	-0.19
US Dollar	88.75	0.02
Gold	1,26,600	2.09
Brent oil	66.42	1.80

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2524.10	-18.10
Adani Ports	1394.30	-5.20
Apollo Hosp	7662.00	-38.00
Asian Paints	2328.50	-24.30
Axis Bank	1180.60	-6.20
Bajaj Auto	8792.00	-112.00
Bajaj Finserv	2013.60	-19.00
Bajaj Finance	1023.15	6.60
Bharat Elec	403.65	-6.65
Bharti Airtel	1943.50	14.50
Cipla	1494.60	-18.70
Coal India	382.10	-2.60
Dr Reddys Lab	1234.50	-14.00
Eicher Motors	6902.50	-54.50
Eternal Ltd.	341.65	3.80
Grasim Ind	2778.20	-29.80
HCL Tech	1453.20	19.80
HDFC Bank	978.70	-3.80
HDFC Life	747.30	-8.30
Hindalco	768.20	0.40
Hind Unilever	2500.10	-17.10
ICICI Bank	1370.30	-5.60
IntGlobeAvi	5635.00	-29.00
Infosys	1495.00	36.50
ITC	399.75	-0.05
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	304.65	-5.25
JSW Steel	1145.20	-11.60
Kotak Bank	2117.80	-9.10
L&T	3729.80	0.10
M&M	3426.50	-66.30
Maruti Suzuki	16012.00	-96.00
Max Healthcare	1144.40	13.70
NestleIndia	1180.50	3.70
NTPC	333.80	-4.20
ONGC	241.81	-3.51
PowerGrid Corp	285.30	-3.70
Reliance Ind	1367.40	-17.40
SBI Life	1772.90	-11.20
State Bank	858.25	-6.45
Shriram Finance Ltd.	666.90	0.10
Sun Pharma	1631.60	-21.50
TataConsumerProduct	1120.20	0.20
Tata Motors	681.55	-16.50
Tata Steel	171.94	0.51
TCS	3027.20	53.50
Tech Mahindra	1458.20	19.30
Titan	3565.60	147.40
Trent Ltd.	4616.60	-69.40
UltraTech Cement	11991.00	-193.00
Wipro	244.27	0.74

'NMIA set to make Mumbai one of Asia's biggest aviation hubs'

Navi Mumbai International Airport will connect Maharashtra farmers to supermarkets in Europe, Middle East; reduce export costs for SMEs: PM

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Setting in motion: PM Narendra Modi inaugurating phase one of the Navi Mumbai International Airport on Wednesday. AFP

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday inaugurated the first phase of the Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA) and said the airport would play a major role in establishing the region as one of Asia's largest connectivity hubs.

He also remarked that the new airport would connect Maharashtra's farmers to supermarkets in Europe and the Middle East, enabling fresh produce, fruits, vegetables, and fishery products to reach global markets swiftly.

He noted that the airport would reduce export costs for nearby small and medium industries, boost investment, and lead to the establishment of new enterprises. The greenfield NMIA is built at a cost of about ₹19,650 crore.

It is expected to become operational in December this year. As the second international airport for the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, NMIA will work in tandem with Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) to ease congestion and elevate Mumbai to the league of global multi-airport systems. To be run by the Adani Group, the airport will handle 90 million passengers annually and 3.25 million metric tonnes of cargo. Among its unique offerings is an Automated People Mover (APM), a transit system planned to connect all four passenger terminals, as well as a landside APM linking the city-side infrastructure.

The airport will feature a dedicated storage for Sustainable Aviation Fuel, solar power generation of approximately 47 MW, and EV bus services.

NMIA will also be the first airport in the country to be connected by water taxis.

PM pitches India as global data hub

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

TN IT Minister PTR urged Mr. Scindia to cap the market share of telcos for a healthy market

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday pitched India as a potential 'global data hub', emphasising the importance of "issues like storage, security and sovereignty" of data that is generated globally. "The world wants reliable partners for the design and manufacturing of telecom equipment," he said.

"Can't Indian companies become reliable global suppliers and design partners?" Mr. Modi asked, while speaking at the inauguration of the India Mobile Congress, conducted by the Department of Telecommunications. The established telcos in India "provide stability, scale and direction" in the telecom sector, and their role is "continuously increasing," Mr. Modi said.

Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said in his remarks that India hoped to secure at least "10% of 6G patents," to establish the country's presence in developing the subsequent generation of telecommunications technology. Mr. Scindia called on Indian firms to "design here, solve for here, and scale for everywhere."

At a roundtable held during the event with States and Union Territories, officials discussed issues in implementing the roll out of the 4G saturation scheme, which aims to provide high speed fibre optic connectivity to all of India's gram panchayats.

Tamil Nadu IT Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan urged Mr. Scindia during the discussion to "cap the market share" of telcos, to maintain a healthy market. Mr. Scindia responded saying the telecom sector was "deregulated".

Mr. Rajan also requested changes to the Right of Way portal, explaining the site did not address State-level issues, which was why TN had not signed on to the model Right of Way rules. The rules provide a framework for applications to local authorities for laying fiber cables and installing telecom equipment.

INBRIEF

British Airways to launch third daily London-Delhi flight

British Airways announced a third daily flight between London Heathrow and Delhi from next year, as it flew into the national capital with 130 top U.K. CEOs and senior government ministers on its chartered flight as part of a trade mission accompanying U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer here on a two-day visit. In a press statement, the airline said it will also look for further growth opportunities in the country as trade between the U.K. and India expands.

IndiGo launches flights to Copenhagen from Mumbai

IndiGo on Wednesday launched flights from Mumbai to Copenhagen in Denmark, its third destination in Europe this year, which it will serve thrice a week. In July, the airline made a big entry into western Europe with non-stop flights to Amsterdam and Manchester. Until July, it was only flying to Istanbul in Turkey and Tbilisi in Georgia within the continent. CEO Pieter Elbers termed the Copenhagen flight the airline's "strategic gateway" to the Nordic region.

Bajaj Finserv rebrands general, life insurance businesses

Bajaj Finserv on Wednesday announced rebranding of its insurance businesses as Bajaj General Insurance and Bajaj Life Insurance with immediate effect. The change comes in the backdrop of the share purchase agreement Bajaj Group signed earlier this year to acquire Allianz SE's 26% interest in the general and life insurance joint ventures, taking the Group's ownership to 100% from the current 74%. The Bajaj Group had received all the requisite regulatory approvals.

'Can take on quantum computing threat'

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

A day after the Union Finance Minister spoke about the weaponisation of technology for frauds, the capital markets regulator echoed her opinion stating that SEBI had an action plan to deal with cyber security threats from quantum computing.

Speaking during the second day of GFF 2025, SEBI Chairperson Tuhin Kanta Pandey said, "To address post quantum cryptographic issues, SEBI has prepared an action plan as well as capacity building initiatives on quantum readiness of its regulated ecosystem." He, however, said that this task would require other stake holders to pitch in.

RBI envisages unified markets interface

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has conceptualised a unified markets interface (UMI) to tokenise financial assets and enable settlements using central bank digital currency.

Speaking at the Global Fintech Fest 2025, RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra said, "This interface will have the capability to tokenise financial assets and settlements using wholesale CBDC. Early efforts and results from the inaugural pilot in improving market efficiency here are encouraging."

The event also saw the launch of other features such as UPI Reserve, Internet of Things compatibility of UPI, among others.

AI in eye of new offerings from SAP for Enterprise Resource Planning

Ramya Kannan
LAS VEGAS

New frontiers: A The data stays securely in SAP systems yet remains instantly accessible in customers' data platforms. REUTERS

Deep AI research and role-based assistants, coupled with SAP Business Suite innovations were unveiled at the SAP's inaugural SAP Connect event, here.

There is now a new network of role-based assistants in Joule (the AI copilot from SAP to boost productivity and enable internal collaborations) to partner humans in elevatating performance, combined with an expanding data ecosystem and supply chain software that anticipates disruptions, SAP leaders said.

Each assistant is designed to partner a human being in specific business role. Assistants in Joule tap into the right agents for the job, configuring, orchestrating and managing them so that humans can focus on unlocking new levels of insight and productivity.

Supporting the assistants in Joule are specialised Joule agents, designed to help execute complex workflows within a specific function. For instance, a People Manager Assistant coordinates a team of specialised agents to help spot and resolve issues say, of compensation anomalies.

"Our announcements today demonstrate the power of SAP Business Suite, where AI, data and applications come together in an experience to propel smarter decisions, faster execution and scalable transformation," said Muhammad Alam, member of the executive board, SAP SE, SAP Product & Engineering.

Later in his keynote address, he drew parallels with the mobile phone indicating disparate things, once unconnected are now seamlessly integrated into one device.

(This reporter is at SAP Connect in Las Vegas at the invitation of SAP)

Lupin plans $250 million pharma plant in Florida

N. Ravi Kumar
HYDERABAD

The new facility is a core part of the firm's growth strategy.

Lupin plans to build a new pharmaceutical manufacturing plant in Florida, U.S., with a $250 million investment spread over a five-year period.

The site, in Coral Springs, will produce 25 critical respiratory medicines, the generic drugmaker said on Wednesday becoming the first Indian pharma firm to unveil manufacturing plans in the U.S. since President Donald Trump's September 25 announcement proposing 100% tariff on import of branded and patented pharmaceutical products.

He, however, had said that the levy will not apply to companies manufacturing in the U.S.

Growth strategy

The proposed facility is part of the core growth strategy and will build on the firm's presence in Florida, which is home to Lupin's Advanced Inhalation Research Center and its U.S. headquarters. "The investment demonstrates Lupin's commitment to innovation, quality and supply chain reliability – and our ability to partner with Florida's leaders to strengthen America's medicine security by growing our capacity to produce affordable treatments for patients," chief technical operations officer Christoph Funke said.

The $250 million is the cumulative projected investment and include those in research and development, infrastructure and capital expenditure.

Among the products, the plant will make lifesaving albuterol inhalers for children with asthma. It will cater to the U.S and markets abroad, the company said.

Wipro opens IoT-powered experience centre

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Wipro Commercial and Institutional Business, a part of Wipro Consumer Care Lighting division, opened an IoT-powered experience centre to boost its lighting and seating businesses.

The company unveiled MyWiproVerse Bengaluru, an IoT-powered experience hub that combines advanced technology, human-centric and sustainable innovation.

The centre would showcase future-ready workspaces featuring IoT-enabled lighting systems and ergonomic seating solutions, the company said.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
Tender No.ENG/PIO/1744/BAHUDAPORT/2025/296, Dt.25.09.2025
Preparation of Techno-Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) and Detailed Project Report (DPR) for New Port near Bahuda Muhan,Ganjam District of Odisha State.
Paradip Port Authority (PPA) invites applications from interested Applicants in accordance with the RFQ document which may be downloaded from the CPP Portal (https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app).
Last date and time of submission of Bid Document is 10.11.2025 till 1715 hours.
Executive Engineer (C)
Project Implementation Office, PPA
PPA/PR/46/2025-2026, dt.07/10/2025

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (जिला), आं.प्र. / SRIHARIKOTA - 524124
संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE
ई–निविदा सूचना सं./ e- Tender Notice No. SHAR / CMD / E / E 2587205 / 2025-26 तिथि/ Date. 07/10/2025
भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, "1. विंड प्रोफाइलर, एसडीएससी शार में सामान्य विद्युत वितरण के संवर्धन के लिए विद्युत कार्य (अनुमानित लागतः ₹157.57 लाख) के लिए ई–निविदा के माध्यम से मद दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा दस्तावेज 22/10/2025 को 14:30 बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं। विस्तृत सूचना हेतु इच्छुक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट www.isro.gov.in या www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO पर जा सकते हैं।
On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for "1. Electrical Works for Augmentation of normal power distribution at wind profiler SDSC SHAR. (Estimated cost: ₹157.57 Lakhs); Tender documents can be downloaded up to 22/10/2025, 14:30 hrs. Interested tenderer may visit www.isro.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO for details.
हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR

BRIC CDFD
a DBT Organization
डी एन ए फिंगरप्रिंटिंग एवं निदान केन्द्र (ब्रिक-सीडीएफडी)
CENTRE FOR DNA FINGERPRINTING AND DIAGNOSTICS (BRIC-CDFD)
(जैव प्रौद्योगिकी अनुसंधान और नवाचार परिषद, जैव प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग, विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन अनुसंधान संस्थान)
(A Research Institute under Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India)
इनर रिंग रोड, उप्पल, हैदराबाद, तेलंगाना, भारत / Inner Ring Road, Uppal, Hyderabad – 500039, Telangana, India
(www.cdfd.org.in)
PhD-I-2026 Admissions
The Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad, invites applications from highly motivated candidates for admission to its PhD Program. Keeping in view the interdisciplinary nature of modern biology, we especially encourage persons from diverse backgrounds to apply. Those admitted as PhD Scholars would be encouraged to register under the Ph. D. program of Regional Centre for Biotechnology.
Eligibility Criteria:
To be eligible for Admission to the CDFD PhD-I-2026, the candidate must have:
1. A Master's degree in any branch of Science, Technology, or Agriculture OR MBBS from a recognized University / Institute.
2. Qualified for a Junior Research Fellowship from CSIR / UGC / DBT / ICMR / DST INSPIRE / UGC – RGNF or any other similar examination with fellowship.
Candidates having qualified for Project – JRF under the ICMR funded project Scheme [which is only for a period of two years] OR DBT JRF NET with a B.Tech. [Biotechnology] degree OR DBT JRF NET under DBT-B category list OR LS-NET qualification only in CSIR-UGC (NET) examination are NOT eligible to apply.
(Please see CDFD website (https://www.cdfd.org.in) for details).
Selection Procedure:
Admission to PhD-I.-2026 at CDFD will be based on a two – step selection process:
I Round : ONLINE interview for the first round via video conference; scheduled to be held during 7 – 12 November 2025 (the exact dates will be informed along with the list of candidates shortlisted for the interview) and
II Round : interview for the second round "in person" at CDFD during 3 – 6 December, 2025 (the exact dates will be informed along with the list of candidates shortlisted for the interview)
(Please see CDFD website (https://www.cdfd.org.in) for details).
Interested candidates who fulfill the above conditions may register their names for PhD. – I – 2026 admissions by applying in the prescribed application form online. The link for the application form is available at http://cdfd.org.in.
The Online application facility will be closed on 28.10.2025.
Visit the CDFD website http://www.cdfd.org.in for detailed advertisement /general terms and conditions.

RajCOMP Info Services Limited (RISL)
C-Block, 1st Floor, Yojana Bhawan, Tilk Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur
Notice Inviting Bid
NIB No. F4.9(1198)/RISL/Tech/Misc/2025/3880 Dated 29-09-2025
RISL invites bids from the eligible bidders for RFP "Rate Contract for Supply, Operation and Maintenance of Tinkering Labs." till 21/11/2025 at 04.00 PM. With Pre-bid on 14/10/2025 at 03.00 PM with an estimated cost is Rs. 2.35 Crores (Excl. taxes). For more details please visit on the websites: https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, https://risl.rajasthan.gov.in.
UBN : RIS2526SLOB00039
Raj.Samwad/C/25/11704 AD, RISL

PUNJAB STATE GRAINS PROCUREMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
ANAAJ BHAWAN, SECTOR 39-C, CHANDIGARH
Notice Inviting Tender
PUNGRAIN invites bids under two bid system i.e. Technical and Financial bids from eligible bidders interested for engagement as Service Provider(s) to provide Preservation, Maintenance, and Security (PMS) services for food grains stored in PEG godowns constructed & hired/ to be constructed & hired by PUNGRAIN & MARKFED on 'lease only basis' under Private Entrepreneur Guarantee 2008 scheme of GOI/FCI; covered godowns owned/ hired by the State Procuring Agencies i.e. PUNGRAIN, PUNSUP, and MARKFED & further leased to FCI on GHB basis for storage of rice and CAP (Cover and Plinth) constructed & hired/ to be hired on 'lease only basis' by PUNGRAIN under CAP hiring Scheme-2019.
For details log onto: https://eproc.punjab.gov.in or http://foodsuppb.gov.in
Bid submission period: From 02:00 PM on 09.10.2025 till 03:00 PM on 10.11.2025.
Pre-bid Conference: On 14.10.2025 at 11:00 AM in the Committee room, Anaaj Bhawan, Sector 39-C, Chandigarh.
Technical Bid Opening date & time: At 04:00 PM on 10.11.2025.
Note:
1. PUNGRAIN reserves the right to scrap the tender at any stage without assigning any reason thereof.
2. Any addendum/corrigendum(s) to the tender shall be published on the above websites only.
1026/12/2025-26/4060 Managing Director, PUNGRAIN

MAHATRANSCO
Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.
INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)
SRM Tender No. –Spec. No.: MSETCL/CE/TBCB/2025-26/10 (RFx no. 6000001425)
MSETCL invites eligible bidders to submit offers under a TWO BID SYSTEM (Techno Commercial Bid and Price Bid) for the following turnkey project:
Pre-Bid Tie up for "Establishment of 400/132 kV AIS Jalna Substation, District Jalna" through tariff based competitive bidding (TBCB) route prior to RFP bid submission by MSETCL to BPC
- IFB document is available under the "Tenders & Notices" section at www.mahatransco.in.
- This tender is restricted and SRM-based. (NDA is mandatory)
- Interested bidders must strictly adhere to all instructions specified in the IFB.
The bid documents have been available for download on the website since October 7, 2025.
Sd/-
Chief Engineer (TBCB), MSETCL

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, सम्भाग भरतपुर
क्रमांक अमुअ/भरत/त.स./2025-26/डी-1431 दिनांक: 26/09/2025
संशोधन पत्र निविदा सूचना संख्या 13/2025-26
इस कार्यालय के पत्र क्रमांक एसीई/बीटीपी / निविदा/2025-26/डी-1194 दिनांक 28.08.2025 से जारी निविदा सूचना संख्या 13/2025-26 बजट घोषणा 2024-25 के अन्तर्गत भरतपुर संभाग के अधीन जिला डीग में बाईपास निर्माण मय आर.ओ.बी. कार्य के लिए, जो कि एसपीपी पोर्टल पर NIB NO. PWD2526A2967 & UBN NO. PWD2526WLOB11157 से प्रकाशित हुई है, की तिथियों में निम्नानुसार संशोधन जारी किया जाता है जो वेबसाईट "www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in" एवं "www.sppp.raj.nic.in" पर देखा जा सकता है।

विवरण	पूर्व प्रकाशित तिथियां	संशोधित तिथियां
ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख	दिनांक 04.09.2025 प्रातः 9.30 बजे से दिनांक 06.10.2025 सायं 06.00 बजे तक	दिनांक 04.09.2025 प्रातः 9.30 बजे से दिनांक 03.11.2025 सायं 06.00 बजे तक
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साथ ही सड़क कार्य में दोष निवारण अवधि 05 वर्ष एवं आर.ओ.बी./सी.डी. कार्य में दोष निवारण अवधि 10 वर्ष रहेगी।
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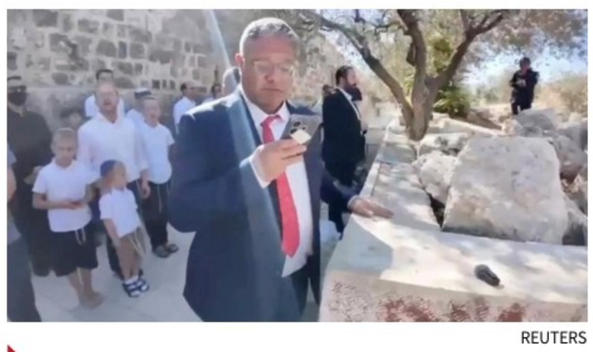
JERUSALEM

Israeli far-right Minister visits Al-Aqsa compound in Jerusalem



REUTERS

Israel's far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir visited the Al-Aqsa compound on Wednesday. The visit is Mr. Ben Gvir's eleventh as Minister to the disputed area, located in occupied east Jerusalem. Hamas condemned the visit, calling it a "deliberate provocation" that "violates the feelings of Muslims worldwide." AFP

MOSCOW

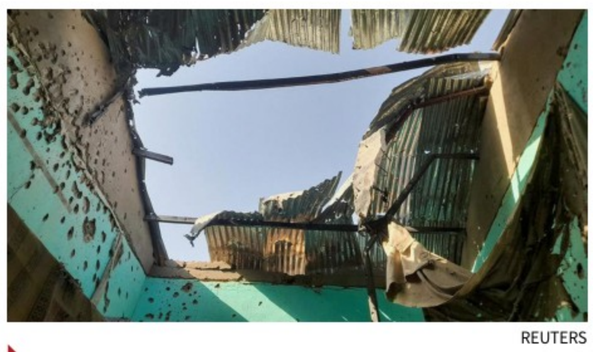
Russia moves to withdraw from plutonium agreement with the U.S.

AP

Russia's lower house of parliament approved a move to withdraw from a landmark agreement with the U.S. aimed at reducing vast stockpiles of weapons-grade plutonium left over from thousands of Cold War nuclear warheads. The Plutonium Management and Disposition Agreement (PMDA) came into force in 2011. REUTERS

PORT SUDAN

New strike by RSF paramilitary group on Sudan hospital kills 12



REUTERS

An attack by Sudan's paramilitary Rapid Support Forces killed 12 persons at the main hospital in the besieged city of El-Fasher, two medical sources said on Wednesday. A doctor and a nurse were among the dead. The attack was the second on the hospital within 24 hours, after eight were killed in a maternity ward on Tuesday. AFP

DHAKA

Bangladesh tribunal issues arrest warrants against Hasina, 29 others

REUTERS

A special tribunal in Bangladesh on Wednesday issued arrest warrants against deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and 29 others on charges of crimes against humanity in alleged cases of enforced disappearances during her Awami League regime. It set October 22 as the date to produce the accused before the court. PTI

Hamas hands over lists of names for prisoner swap at Gaza truce talks

One of the biggest sticking points will be to pressure Hamas to disarm, an issue it has so far been unwilling to discuss; also, the timing of the implementation of the first phase of Donald Trump's 20-point peace initiative has not been agreed so far

Reuters
SHARM EL-SHEIKH

Hamas handed over lists on Wednesday of hostages and Palestinian prisoners to be exchanged in a swap, and said it was optimistic about negotiations to end the war in Gaza, while U.S. President Donald Trump's son-in-law and envoy were due to join the talks.

Negotiations are focused on the mechanisms to halt the conflict, the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza and the swap deal, the Palestinian militant group added, in a seemingly upbeat assessment of the talks over a plan put forward by Mr. Trump, the closest diplomats have come to silencing the guns.

Dire straits: An injured man walks among the rubble of his house to inspect the damage in Sabra in Gaza City on Wednesday. REUTERS

One of the biggest sticking points will be pressure on Hamas to disarm, an issue it has so far been unwilling to discuss at the talks which began on Monday in the Egyptian resort town of Sharm el-Sheikh.

The timing of the implementation of the first phase of Mr. Trump's 20-point initiative has not been agreed so far,.

Mr. Trump expressed optimism about progress toward a deal on Tuesday, the second anniversary of Hamas' attack on Israel that triggered Israel's assault on Gaza.

He is sending a team that includes his special envoy Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner, Mr. Trump's son-in-law who served as West Asia envoy during the President's first term.

Other senior figures were also expected to join the talks on Wednesday, including Israeli Strategic Affairs Minister Ron Dermer – Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's close confidant – and Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani, a long-standing mediator.

Another participant will be Turkish spymaster Ibrahim Kalin, pointing to a growing role for Turkiye, a powerful NATO member which has close contacts with Hamas but which Israel has not previously viewed as a mediator.

Scientists win Chemistry Nobel Prize for bridging metals and organics

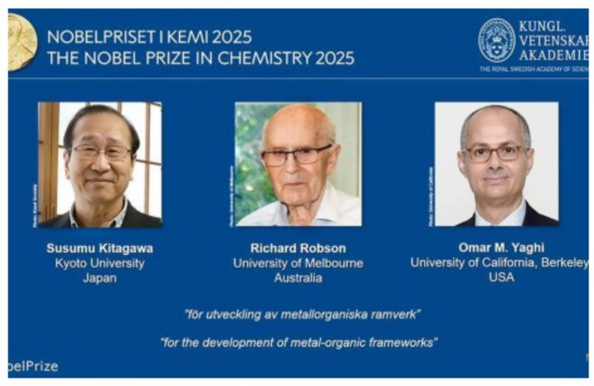
Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

An Australian, a Japanese and a Jordanian-American scientists were announced winners of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for discovering and creating a class of materials, called metal-organic frameworks (MOF).

Metallic and organic substances are as far apart in the chemical world as Australia and the U.S. geographically and it was inconceivable that stable, useful products could be made out of materials formed by integrating them. But beginning Richard Robson's initial conception of them in the mid 1970s, sparked from a science project for his Melbourne University students; to Susumu Kitagawa's dogged determination, in Kyoto University, at creating porous molecules – despite knowing that they were "useless" – but tinkering with them until he created the right kind of structures that were useful enough to work as a filter whilst remaining flexible and pliant; to finally Omar Yaghi at the University of California, Berkley, making a variety of metal-organic frameworks, as he named them, that were capable of drawing water vapour out of desert air at night and releasing them as water in the day.

The three will equally share the prize of 11 million Swedish kroner, about ₹1 crore.

Following the laureates' groundbreaking discoveries, chemists have since built tens of thousands of different MOFs. Some of these may contribute to solving some of humankind's greatest challenges, with applications that include separating PFAS (a family of chemicals that are believed to be toxic) from water, breaking down traces of pharmaceuticals in the environment, capturing carbon dioxide or harvesting water from desert air, a press statement noted.



Protracted effort: From left, Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson and Omar Yaghi, who won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry. AP

Molecular kit

Researchers have developed a molecular kit with a wide range of different pieces that can be used to create new MOFs. These have different shapes and characters, providing incredible potential for the rational –or AI-based – design of MOFs for different purposes.

First of the block and inspired by a project to make wooden block representations of chemical bonds, Mr. Robson began by testing the inherent properties of atoms in a new way. He combined positively charged copper ions with a four-armed molecule; this had a chemical group that was attracted to copper ions at the end of each arm. When they were combined, they bonded to form a well-ordered, spacious crystal. It was like a diamond filled with innumerable cavities.

Mr. Robson immediately recognised the potential of his molecular construction, but it was unstable and collapsed easily. However, Mr. Kitagawa and Mr. Yaghi provided this building method with a firm foundation; between 1992 and 2003 they made, separately, a series of revolutionary discoveries.

Mr. Kitagawa showed that gases can flow in and out of the constructions and predicted that MOFs could be made flexible.

Mr. Yaghi created a very stable MOF and showed that it can be modified using rational design, giving it new and desirable properties.

Initially, it was challenging for the broader scientific community to appreciate MOF as they didn't seem to be much better than a class of materials called zeolites. But things changed when they succeeded in developing soft MOFs – a step up over zeolites that were hard.

On Trump's orders, 200 troops arrive in Illinois

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

Two hundred Texas National Guard troops have arrived in Illinois, a Pentagon official said on Tuesday, ahead of a planned deployment in Chicago that is opposed by local Democratic officials. U.S. President Donald Trump has already sent troops onto the streets of Los Angeles and Washington and has ordered them to Memphis, as well as Chicago and Portland, threatening to invoke emergency powers to forward such efforts if the courts get in the way.

Indian Foreign Secretary's remark on polls 'unwarranted', says Bangladesh

Press Trust of India
DHAKA

Bangladesh's interim government on Wednesday described Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri's comments on the general election as "completely unwarranted", saying it is entirely an internal affair of the country.

"I see that statement as not their matter; it is entirely an internal issue for Bangladesh, and such comments are completely unwarranted," Foreign Affairs Adviser Md Touhid Hossain told reporters.

Mr. Hossain made the remarks when asked to comment on Mr. Misri's statement that India is firmly in favour of holding free, fair and inclusive elections in Bangladesh at the earliest, and it is ready to work with any government chosen by the people in the polls.

India-Bangladesh ties became strained after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was ousted in August 2024 following violent protests. AFP

India-Bangladesh relations were strained after the interim government assumed power following the ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's Awami League regime in a violent student-led movement dubbed the "July Uprising" in August 2024, when she left for India.

The interim government in May disbanded Awami League's activities until the trial of Ms. Hasina and leaders of her government were completed under multiple charges.

Analysts said Mr. Misri's call for "inclusive and participatory" elections in Bangladesh carried a political significance, while most of the Awami League leaders were imprisoned or on the run at home and abroad.

Sport

India gets past UAE, books a last-eight berth

BADMINTON

Agencies
GUWAHATI

India warmed up for the quarterfinals of the Yonex-Sunrise BWF World junior mixed team championships with a straight-game win over UAE while USA upset France and Japan got the better of top seed Thailand to top their respective groups on Wednesday.

While India defeated UAE 45-37, 45-34, Japan got the better of Thailand 45-42, 45-34 in Group A and USA made it to the last-eight stage with a 45-43, 45-43 win over France.

The top teams in all eight groups will compete in the quarterfinals, while the others will fight in the classification rounds. Other teams to top their respective groups include China (D) and Indonesia (F).

On the prowl: Tanvi gave India a rousing start. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

India, seeded second, went into the final round as the only unbeaten team in the group. That confidence showed in the way it approached the match against UAE.

Tanvi Sharma gave the team a rousing start as she defeated Prakriti Bharath 9-5. The mixed doubles combination of C. Lalramsanga and Vishakha Toppo then made it 18-10 against Adithya Kiran and Sakshi Kurbkhelgi.

UAE did put up a fight in the boys singles and doubles with Bharath Lateesh scoring nine points against Hmar Lalthazuala and then teaming up with Riyan Malhan to score 10 points against Bhagav Ram Arigela and Viswa Tej Gobburu, but their efforts were not enough

In the second set, Unnati Hooda replaced Tanvi and Suryansh Rawat took the place of Hmar in the line-up. Unnati beat Prakriti 9-6 to start the proceedings and there was no looking back for the Indian team from there on.

The results: Group A: Japan bt Thailand 45-42, 45-34; Ireland bt Portugal 45-40, 43-45, 45-37; **Group B:** USA bt France 45-43, 45-43; Vietnam bt Egypt 45-21, 45-18; **Group D:** China bt Turkey 45-28, 45-24; England bt Uganda 45-26, 45-16; **Group E:** Denmark bt Singapore 45-33, 45-42; Brazil bt Netherlands 45-38, 45-35; **Group F:** Indonesia bt Hong Kong 44-45, 45-37, 45-23; Philippines bt Slovenia 45-27, 45-28; **Group G:** Hungary bt Bhutan 45-17, 45-10; Korea bt Romania 45-22, 45-25; **Group H:** Sri Lanka bt Nepal 45-21, 45-28; **India bt UAE 45-37, 45-34.**

Tharun, Anmol and Tanya advance as other Indians exit

Press Trust of India
VANTAA (FINLAND)

Tharun Mannepalli kept alive India's hopes in men's singles at the Arctic Open 2025, staging a thrilling comeback to upset World No. 14 Toma Junior Popov of France 1-21, 21-11, 22-20, even as Lakshya Sen fell 21-15, 21-17 in 57 minutes to World No. 11 and fifth seed Kodai Naraoka of Japan.

In other matches, K. Srikanth conceded a walkover to Denmark's Rasmus Gemke, while Kiran George retired in his second game after trailing 1-4 after conceding the opener 10-21 to Watanabe.

Sankar Subramanian went down 21-17, 21-11 to France's Christo Popov in 44 minutes, and Ayush Shetty lost 21-15, 21-16 against top seed Kunlavut Vitidsarn of Thailand in 50 minutes.

Anmol.
FILE PHOTO: RITU RAJ KONWAR

Meanwhile on Tuesday, Anmol Kharb and Tanya Hemanth registered impressive wins to progress to the women's singles second round.

The 18-year-old Anmol, produced a gritty show to edge out Lin Hsiang Ti of Taiwan 23-21, 11-21, 21-18, while Tanya, 22, who won the Saipan International this year, notched up a 22-20, 21-18 win over Huang Ching Ping of Taiwan.

Kavipriya Selvam, however, went down 16-21, 16-21 to eighth seed Mia Blichfeldt of Denmark.

In mixed doubles, Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto outplayed France's Lucas Renoir and Camille Pognante 21-9, 21-7 in just 23 minutes to enter the second round.

Mohit Jaglan and Lakshita Jaglan lost 19-21, 15-21 to the Netherlands' Brian Wassink and Debora Jille.

India colts complete clean sweep

Press Trust of India
MACKAY

India U-19 completed its clean sweep of Australia U-19 in the latter's backyard with a seven-wicket win in the second and final Youth Test, here on Wednesday.

Resuming day two at 114 for seven, India U-19 was all out for 171 for a 36-run first innings lead.

The home team was once again poor with the bat, managing just 119 in its second essay to set India U-19 an 81-run target.

The scores: Australia U-19: 135 & 116 in 40.1 overs (Alex Lee Young 38; Henil Patel 3/23) lost to India U-19 171 in 51.4 overs & 84/3 in 12.2 overs (Vedant Trivedi 33 n.o.).

RISING TO THE OCCASION

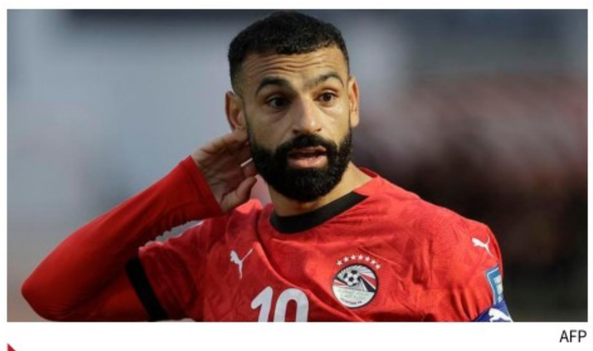
Mooney and King stitch record ninth-wicket partnership in ODIs

AFP

Beth Mooney and Alana King's 102-run partnership in Australia's match against Pakistan in the Women's World Cup in Colombo on Wednesday is the highest for the ninth wicket in ODIs. The stand bettered the 77-run effort between Ashleigh Gardner and Kim Garth for the ninth wicket against South Africa in 2024.

SEALING IT

Salah does the star turn as Egypt makes it to 2026 FIFA World Cup



AFP

Liverpool star Mohamed Salah scored twice as Egypt beat Djibouti 3-0 in Casablanca on Wednesday to qualify for the 2026 FIFA World Cup. Ibrahim Adel netted the other goal as the Egyptians became the third African qualifiers after Morocco and Tunisia. Egypt has competed in three World Cups previously.

POWER-PACKED

Clinical Mumbai Meteors smashes its way past Delhi Toofans

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Mumbai Meteors registered a clinical 15-12, 15-10, 15-11 win against Delhi Toofans in a Prime Volleyball League match in Hyderabad on Wednesday. An early super point by Abhinav Salar and Shubham Chaudhary's keen eye for finding the gaps put the Meteors in control from the start.

SMOOTH SAILING

Telugu Titans rides on Hooda's heroics to down Haryana Steelers

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Telugu Titans registered a 46-29 victory over Haryana Steelers in a PKL-12 match in Chennai on Wednesday. Bharat Hooda marked his 100th game by notching up 20 points, including 16 raid points while Vijay Malik contributed eight. In the other match of the day, Puneri Paltan got the better of U Mumba 37-27.

Leading the way: Jemimah has been spectacular as usual and the other Indians will be keen to follow suit. K.R. DEEPAK

India looks to tick a few boxes against South Africa

The home team will have its task cut out against a resurgent opponent; Amanjot's return will bolster the side for the key contest; spinner Mlaba's form crucial for Wolvaardt's unit

ODI WORLD CUP

Anirudh Velamuri
VISAKHAPATNAM

India faces a litmus test against South Africa in a Women's ODI World Cup match at the ACA-VDCA Stadium here on Thursday.

With two wins on the trot, the Women in Blue sit one point behind table-topper Australia. However, their performances have not been as smooth as they would have wished.

Not taken off

India's explosive opening pair has not taken off so far and while the rescue acts by the middle-order are welcome, it's not exactly going in the positives column of the think-tank's notes. What doesn't help is the advantage ceded by India's long-term Achilles heel – its fielding.

In 16 ODIs this year, India has dropped as many as 41 chances. Particularly guilty of sloppiness is Richa Ghosh whose returns by the stumps have been ordinary at best.

Her fighting unbeaten 35 in 20 balls against Pakistan has been the bright spot in an otherwise lean batting record, too. The home team will take comfort, however, in the two-week training camp held at this venue before the tournament got underway.

Having the chance to understand conditions here, with the surfaces reportedly going the high-scoring way, will hold India in good stead against a South African line-up with much firepower and against Australia on Sunday.

The side will be buoyed by the recovery and availability of Amanjot Kaur, who made way for Renuka Singh against Pakistan due to fever.

South Africa will also come into this contest full of belief, having taken apart New Zealand with ease. The drubbing at the hands of England now looks well behind the Proteas, with the side rising to the occasion in all departments in Indore.

With rain clouds hovering over the coastal city, a covered pitch might present its own challenges and opportunities.

If Colombo is any example to go by, the pitch might hold moisture and offer bowlers across variants some grip.

With left-arm spinners ruling the roost in this tournament so far, Nonkululeko Mlaba will hope to double down on a four-wicket haul against New Zealand.

She will be the key to South Africa's hopes of posting its first win in the format against India since 2022.

Today's Match

IND vs SA

Visakhapatnam, 3 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD ODIs
Played: 33
India: 20 | South Africa: 12 | NR: 1

IN WORLD CUPS
Played: 5
India: 3 | South Africa: 2

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIOHOTSTAR

Waiting for that perfect match, says Jemimah

Anirudh Velamuri
VISAKHAPATNAM

Jemimah Rodrigues has brushed aside concerns of the Indian batting not playing to its potential so far. Instead, she suggested that the depth of batting should keep opponents on their toes.

"We are on the right track. Yes, we've had small contributions from the top and middle orders. But we've had new match winners every time. Opponents know that we have batting till the end," she said.

"Maybe if one doesn't click, the other is taking responsibility. I would say that it's scary for opponents to know that we have not had our perfect match yet and we are still on a winning streak."

The 25-year-old also underlined the importance of peaking at the right time. "We are still waiting for that perfect match. Such tournaments, because they are so long, it's important to peak at the right time. We have so much more confidence knowing that till the end we have batters and everyone is a match-winner," she said.

Jemimah also said that the team was taking it one game at a time and is focusing on its strengths rather than adapting its plans according to the opponents.

"We've always spoken about sticking to our strengths. Are we doing what we've planned? If we've done that, we are happy. If not, we'll try and improve," she said.

The Mooney-King show swings it Australia's way

Lavanya L
COLOMBO

Champions are made from the clay of hard work in the off-season. But ever so often, winners come about purely through bravery. One spark is enough to create a moment to cherish for posterity.

This could have been the epilogue of a famous win for Pakistan against Australia in its Women's ODI World Cup league fixture at the R. Premadasa Stadium here on Wednesday if it hadn't ruined one of the best bowling efforts in this edition of the showpiece.

A flailing Australian batting order was reduced to 76 for seven with Nashra Sandhu, Sadia Iqbal and Rameen Shamim taking a combined six wickets for just 98 runs in their 30 overs.

However, a carefully constructed century from the annoyingly immovable Beth Mooney and a crucial fifty by Alana King helped Australia recover to 221 for nine after which the seamers put a struggling Pakistan chase to bed to seal a 107-run win.

After Bangladesh's bowling brilliance against England the day before, Pakistan seemed poised to do one better and potentially wrap up the Australian innings for a paltry score after opting to field on a hot, humid afternoon.

The top- and middle-order showed utter lack of application, trying to score too quickly off a slow surface.

Against a crimson sky with crows dotting trees around the Premadasa, waiting to peck at the carcass of the Aussie innings, a red-faced Mooney and her 114-ball 109, her fifth in the format, stood out.

Adept footwork and the ability to rotate strike obsessively to blunt Fatima Sana's aggressive fields erased the embarrassing show from the top-ranked side in the early hours of the game.

She found support from Kim Garth (47-ball 11) and King, who smacked three fours and three sixes to aid Australia's 81-run flourish in the final 10 overs, 53 of those coming just off the last five.

A usually disciplined Diana Baig turned out to be Australia's saviour, generously conceding 74 runs in her spell.

Chasing 100 more than they would have liked, Pakistan crumbled like nine pins against Australia's relentless pace battery.

Sidra Amin with a 52-ball 35 and the tail offered resistance, but, in the end, structure and stability triumphed over spirit.

The scores:
Australia 221/9 in 50 overs (Beth Mooney 109, Alana King 51 n.o., Nashra Sandhu 3/37) bt Pakistan 114 in 36.3 overs (Sidra Amin 35, Kim Garth 3/14).
Toss: Pakistan; **PoM:** Mooney.

Beth on the money: Mooney's fighting century dashed Pakistan's hopes of an upset win. GETTY IMAGES

Sammy urges players to have better mindset

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

Sammy. PTI

The questions are many, but judging from coach Daren Sammy's media interaction ahead of the second Test here, there are no easy answers to reviving West Indies cricket. For a number of years, the team representing the Caribbean islands has been in corrosive decline.

From financial worries to structural shortcomings to the plain lack of quality, Sammy, who took charge of the Test unit earlier this year, describes these issues as a "cancer that is rooted deep into the system". But what he doesn't want, after a demoralising defeat to India in Ahmedabad, is for his players to be lacking in effort and hard work in comparison to their opponents.

"The troubles we have didn't start now. I know I am under the microscope. Our problems don't lie on the surface. The immediate fix is to encourage the guys to train better and have a better mindset," he told reporters. "The only way we can match up and compete is if we are prepared to outwork the opposition. We're not doing that. That's where I've challenged them. When we train, we have to be more precise and purposeful.

"The history we bring and the legacy we have left in all formats... obviously the way we are playing now, everybody would lean towards that (demotion in a two-tier Test system, if it happens).

"But if we understand the impact West Indies has had in cricket, we deserve all what we ask for," the 41-year-old stated.

Spotlight on Sai Sudharsan's search for a big score

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

As India hurtled towards victory inside three days in the first Test against West Indies at Ahmedabad, B. Sai Sudharsan may have momentarily harboured conflicting emotions. While the comprehensive margin was a gratifying return to winning ways at home for the team, the left-hand batter from Tamil Nadu wouldn't have minded a second crack with the willow in the game. As it turned out, West Indies was so inept with the bat even the second time around that it went down by an innings and 140 runs.

It left Sai Sudharsan with no opportunity to make amends for his first innings, where a score of seven was all he managed before being dismissed leg-before by Roston Chase's off-spin. In an innings where everybody else got a start – he and Yashasvi Jaiswal were the only dismissed batters to not reach a half-century – the 23-year-old's single-digit effort didn't make for favourable reading against an attack that appeared innocuous for large parts.

Keen to get going: Sai Sudharsan will look to grab the chance that comes his way despite middling returns. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

When Jaiswal was dismissed on 36 against the run of play, the ideal foundation had been set for the No. 3 to amass a big score. It would have acted as a springboard for someone who is finding his footing in pristine whites after a tour of England that evoked mixed sentiments about his game. But in the 25th over, he committed the fatal blunder of going back to a delivery that wasn't all that short.

As soon as the ball missed Sai Sudharsan's swipe across the line and thudded into his left pad, umpire Richard Illingworth raised his index finger.

It means that the top-order batter's returns after four Tests read 147 runs in seven innings, with just one half-century. In England, the youngster did predominantly display a sound defence, but never managed to capitalise on the unusually dry and benign surfaces on offer. That he was caught down the leg side for a duck in his very first innings of the series seemed to make him conscious against that ploy as the tour wore on.

If it was Karun Nair who was axed after the tour of the Old Blighty and not Sai Sudharsan despite similar returns, it is largely because the latter has age on his side. But with Devdutt Padikkal, 25, in the squad and awaiting his chance, the southpaw from Chennai will have to soon start pulling his weight in the playing XI. The second Test at the Arun Jaitley Stadium from Friday provides an imminent opportunity.

'We want to get a good look at Nitish'

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

Nitish. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Just as overcast clouds gave way to a sliver of sunshine at the Arun Jaitley Stadium on Wednesday afternoon, all the members of the Indian team turned up for a three-and-a-half-hour net session at high intensity.

After winning the first Test against West Indies in Ahmedabad, another equally commanding display from Shubman Gill and Co. is expected when the two sides lock horns here from Friday.

According to assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate, the second Test is an opportunity for the team management to have a good look at Nitish Reddy's all-round skills. In the opener, the 22-year-old was confined to bowling just four overs of medium-pace. Slotted at No. 8 in the order, he didn't get to bat.

"We are unlikely to change the combination. One of the medium-term objectives is to develop a seam-bowling all-rounder for India. We didn't get a very good look at Nitish last week. It is a very good opportunity to give Nitish another go and not alter the balance of the team," ten Doeschate told the media on Wednesday.

If Nitish is to carve a long Test career, the Dutchman sees the youngster's fitness as the key. "We think he's a fantastic seam-bowling all-rounder," ten Doeschate said. "The biggest limitation to what his ceiling could be is going to be his body. The challenge for him is to get game time between away series. In a series like this, it is more important to see how we can fit him in."

INBRIEF

Spanish footballer Alba to retire at end of MLS season

Inter Miami's former Spanish international defender Jordi Alba on Tuesday announced his decision to retire from football at the end of the ongoing Major League Soccer season. Alba, who won 93 caps for Spain between 2011 and 2023 and was also a key member of Barcelona's team over the same era, confirmed his decision in a post on Instagram.

Vrinda stars in Karnataka's facile win over HP

Vrinda Dinesh scored a half-century as Karnataka beat Himachal Pradesh by eight wickets in the senior women's T20 trophy in Gwalior.

The scores: Himachal Pradesh 108/8 in 20 overs (S.M. Singh 37) lost to Karnataka 111/2 in 19.1 overs (Vrinda Dinesh 54, Niki Prasad 35 n.o.).

APL: Rajputana Royals on verge of semifinal berth

After a washout on Tuesday, the Archery Premier League (APL) returned to action in New Delhi on Wednesday as Rajputana Royals notched up its sixth straight win to inch closer to a semifinal spot. Royals romped to a 5-1 victory against Chola Chiefs on the back of a solid showing from Turkish archer Mete Gazoz. In other matches, Chero Archers also beat Mighty Marathas 5-1 while Prithviraj Yodhas consigned Kakatiya Knights to a fifth defeat in the competition.

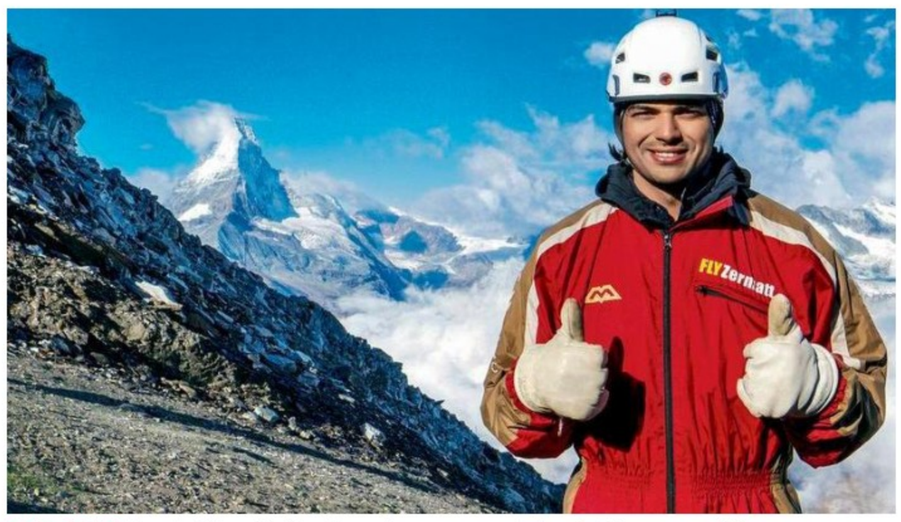
LIVE TELECAST

Tennis: Shanghai Masters, Sony Sports Ten 1 & LIV, 10 a.m.

Women's ODI World Cup: India vs South Africa, Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3 p.m.

PVL: Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & LIV, 6.30 p.m.

PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 8 p.m.



A bit of R&R: Neeraj chills out in the Alps as he recovers and plans for future competitions. PTI

Neeraj's Swiss retreat and pursuit of sharper comeback next season

The focus now is on getting stronger; the body feels good and I am confident of coming back fitter, says the champion javelin thrower

ATHLETICS

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

It was a "challenging" season but one that Neeraj Chopra is proud of, and as he recovers to come back "sharper" next year, the ace javelin thrower has retreated to Switzerland.

In a telephonic interview to PTI from Zurich, the 27-year-old spoke a bit about his hopes from the next season, his love for all things Swiss and the eager traveller in him.

"It's been a really challenging season overall. A lot to be proud of and plenty to learn from. Each competition added to my experience and confidence," he said. "Of course, there's always scope to get better, and that's what keeps me motivated," added Neeraj, who touched the 90m peak but ended up medalless at the World Championships.

He has moved on from the mixed results and is focussed on a strong return in 2026.

"The focus now is on recovery and getting stronger for the next season. The body feels good, and with a bit of rest and recovery, I am confident of coming back sharper," he said, brushing aside any major concerns regarding his fitness.

And Switzerland is the place that he loves coming back to for those much-needed recovery sessions.

There are also the memories that he has made here over the years, especially the sporting ones.

Happy memories

"I won the Diamond League Trophy in Zurich (in 2022) which is very special to me. I have trained in Magglingen, where you have the Swiss Olympic Training Centre. I trained there before the World Championship in Budapest (2023) where I won a gold medal. So, a lot of my happy memories have a Swiss connection.

"I stay out of India because most of my competitions are outside India, mostly in Europe actually. If I base myself in India then travelling and training combined can get very hectic. Logistics are easier to manage here," he said.

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Thangaraja in lead

Sri Lankan N. Thangaraja, who has a winner and runner-up finish to his name in the last three PGTI events, continued his fine run with a six-under 65 to move into the halfway lead on day two of the Bengaluru Open at the Karnataka Golf Association (KGA) course in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

Thangaraja, who was overnight tied third, has totalled 131 after 36 holes to hold a one-shot advantage. Viraj Madappa, the overnight joint leader, fired a 67 to slip one spot at 10-under 132 while Manu Gandas shot a tournament low of 63 to climb 26 spots to third place at nine-under 133.

Bengaluru FC ropes in midfielder Sanchez

Bengaluru FC, on Tuesday, announced the signing of

Braian Sanchez.

32-year-old Argentine midfielder Braian Sanchez on a one-year deal.

Sanchez, who hails from Buenos Aires began his footballing journey at Club Atletico San Miguel and spent most of his career in the Primera Nacional (Argentina's second division).

Last season, he turned out for Primera Division club Deportivo Riestra, where he scored three goals and assisted two.

Sanchez is expected to be available for BFC's upcoming fixtures in the Super Cup, which begins with a clash against Mohammedan SC on October 30.

Karnataka beats Chhattisgarh

Saanvi and Suhavvi scored 16 points each as Karnataka defeated Chhattisgarh 57-52 to enter the girls' semifinals at the 50th sub-junior National basketball championship in Dehradun. But Karnataka boys lost to Uttar Pradesh in the last eight 42-92.

Jomon stars for Sporting club

Jomon Jacob scored twice as Sporting Club defeated Bangalore City FC 3-0 in the KSFA Super Division League football here on Wednesday.

The results: Sporting Club Bengaluru 3 (Shaurya Rastogi 10, Jomon Jacob 83, 85) bt Bhartat Bengaluru FC 0; MEG & Centre FC 1 (Pravesh Bisht 47) bt Kodagu FC 0; South United FC 0 drew with BFC 0.

Power Of Gold for Chief Minister's Cup

MYSURU: Power Of Gold, who is in fine nick, may score an encore in the Chief Minister's Cup (1,600m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Thursday (Oct. 9). False rails (width about 6.5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 DUPONT PLATE (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 2-30 .m.: 1. Tower Quest (4) Sai Kiran 60, 2. Sea Of Adventure (9) Asirvatham 58, 3. Secret Shadow (8) Ankit Pal 57, 4. Abnegator (7) L.A. Rozario 56.5, 5. Just Blues (3) Arvind K 56.5, 6. Maduva Thalaivi (1) Prabhu K 55, 7. Anushtubha (5) Antony 54, 8. Break Away (6) S. Imran 54 and 9. Saffran Breeze (2) A. Baandal 52.5.

1. SEA OF ADVENTURE, 2. ANUSHTUBHA, 3. SECRET SHADOW

2 DUPONT PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 3-00: 1. One Diamond (1) Faiz 62.5, 2. Magic Circle (2) Sai Kiran 62, 3. Thewhisperquietly (8) Afsar Khan 62, 4. Saro Gold Mine (7) Salman Khan 61, 5. Coorg General (4) A. Agarwal 60.5, 6. Maybury (5) Prabhu K 59, 7. Priceless Beauty (6) Abhishek Mhatre 58.5, 8. Golden Bird (3) Pavan 58 and 9. Authentic Bell (9) S. Imran 54.

1. MAGIC CIRCLE, 2. ONE DIAMOND, 3. MAYBURY

3 COOL & SOLI POONAWALLA MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,400m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3-30: 1. Coorg Hills (8) Neeraj 56, 2. Darrington (10) Arvind K 56, 3. Valiant Stream (9) Akshay K 56, 4. Blind Faith (1) A.A. Vikrant 54.5, 5. Devate (3) Abhishek Mhatre 54.5, 6. Goddess Of War (5) Antony 54.5, 7. Queen Maxima (12) Tauseef 54.5, 8. Raha (11) Sai Kiran 54.5, 9. Salt N Pepper (4) N.B. Kuldeep 54.5, 10. Silver Quest (2) H. Rahul 54.5, 11. Tefillah (7) Vinod Shinde 54.5 and 12. Vibrant Queen (6) L.A. Rozario 54.5.

1. GODDESS OF WAR, 2. DARRINGTON, 3, VIBRANT QUEEN

4 CHIEF MINISTER'S CUP (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 4-00: 1. Dabeet (2) Siddaraju P 62.5, 2. One Nation (6) Abhishek Mhatre 61, 3. Power Of Gold (4) Akshay K 59, 4. Sea Diamond (10) Asirvatham 58, 5. Kallania (5) M. Prabhakaran 57, 6. Victoriaraya (12) A. Hangal 56.5, 7. Yukikaze (11) Antony 55.5, 8. Always For You (7) Hindu S 54, 9. Carter (1) L.A. Rozario 53.5, 10. Money Exchange (3) Ayaz Khan 53.5, 11. Purple Martini (9) H. Rahul 53 and 12. Assurances (8) Aleemuddin 52.

1. POWER OF GOLD, 2. ASSURANCES, 3. YUKIKAZE

5 HOTEL RRR TROPHY (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 4-30: 1. Ocean (8) Faiz 60.5, 2. Grace (9) Asirvatham 59, 3. Thalaivaa (10) Aleemuddin 56, 4. Natural Tornado (5) Ankit Pal 55.5, 5. Swaghatham (1) H. Rahul 55.5, 6. Like My Child (6) Vinod Shinde 55, 7. Sparkling Night (2) Pavan 55, 8. O Manchali (7) Rajesh K 54.5, 9. Jasmine (11) Gautam Raj 54, 10. Sherouk (4) Abhishek Mhatre 54, 11. Sherpa (3) A. Baandal 54 and 12. Marenad Beauty (12) L.A. Rozario 52.5.

1. OCEAN, 2. SHEROUK, 3. NATURAL TORNADO

6 COORG PLATE (1,100m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over, 5-00: 1. Lady Invictus (8) Akshay K 60, 2. Agera (9) L.A. Rozario 59.5, 3. Maple Leaf (4) Pavan 56.5, 4. Golden Time (5) Vinod Shinde 56, 5. Words Worth (6) B. Dharshan 56, 6. Dufy (3) Abhishek Mhatre 55.5, 7. Klimt (1) Sai Kiran 55, 8. Southern Force (7) Arvind K 54 and 9. Vayu (2) Aleemuddin 54.

1. LADY INVICTUS, 2. AGERA, 3. DUFY

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